

Wise County Messenger

VOL. XXXIV.—NO. 1.

DECATUR, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1913.

DR. PRICE'S Cream BAKING POWDER

IS ABSOLUTELY HEALTHFUL

Its active principle solely grape acid and baking soda. It makes the food more delicious and wholesome.

The low priced, low grade powders put alum or lime phosphates in the food.

Ask Your Doctor About That

START RIGHT

Start with the New Year right by trading at a store where you are assured of getting "all that is coming to you" for every penny of your purchase.

Happy New Year to you and yours.

SMITH & COLLINS

Awful Isn't It?



Do you know that more people have died of colds than were ever killed in battle?

Don't Wear It Out

Dangerous, come in and get a box of Lynn's Cold Tablets and you will feel all right tomorrow.

Corner Drug Store

C. B. GUNN, Proprietor

E. BOYD & SON

All Kinds of Insurance

Friends and Patrons:—We extend to all wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We are grateful, indeed, for the patronage you have kindly bestowed upon us. The New Year finds us fully equipped to place your Insurance to the best advantage.

Competitors and their patrons:—Here's

Thirty Three Years Ago The Messenger Was Born



PIONEERS OF WISE COUNTY

Sturdy Characters Whom the Messenger Assisted in Bringing About the Present Day

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE FIRST ISSUES OF THE MESSENGER

(By "Oldtimer")

Editors Messenger:—You ask me to give you a few facts concerning the publication of the first editions of the Messenger.

As many of your readers are aware the Messenger was founded at Paradise, Texas, early in 1880.

Its first editor was the late Wm. Forster, who had come to this county from North Missouri, being originally from Iowa. He taught school at two or three places in Wise county before embarking in the newspaper business and founding the Messenger.

Not being a printer Mr. Forster sought and secured the services of the writer hereof, having previously bought a very small quantity of material and one 14x18 Gordon job press.

The printer of today, I imagine, if he was asked to produce a paper with the limited facilities then at hand would "flake" on the job, and seek employment at plowing or driving cattle. However, in those trying days of the frontier, when we needed enlightenment throughout the country we "knew no such word as fail."

As I look back now I realize that, as a successful money venture, there was no necessity of establishing the Messenger at that time. But western pluck and spirit prevailed, and, despite the hard times sure to be ahead, the Messenger was launched.

As stated, our material was very limited.

While you are now snugly ensconced in a modern stone building, we then were located in a 10x12 "shack." You have four modern newspaper and job printing presses, propelled by "power." We had one press, run by "foot power," and this press was by far the best thing in the shop. I notice you have six elegant "make up" stones. We made up our forms on the flat side of a native sawed log.

You have twelve type stands, with, probably, a hundred or more of type. My recollection is we had one type case and half fonts.

Such has been the continued progress of the Messenger. We then had a large and expensive paper cutter. We then used a pocket knife. The paper was then printed at a time; today you print four pages at one impression.

You are fully equipped with galleys, quoins, galley, and saving devices of every kind. We were very short minus entirely of some, and our apparatus was labor-prolonging. Still, seeing old times makes me proud.

Your office is modernly lighted with gas; we used kerosene lamp and candles when necessary.

There have been many changes both inside and out. Changes and improvements seem to be for the betterment of men on the job.

We fought, bled and died, establishing the Messenger in this country. We bore the brunt of continuing opposition in the fore-front when the shot and shell whizzing all around our heads.

With a well-equipped plant and a splendid staff, in this prosperous country, you are now reaping the fruits of our labors.

That's what makes me say "D— a newspaper."

[Note—Of course the latter part of this article is what it really is—a joke. There being no enemies of the Messenger, I rejoice with other good citizens that we have the Messenger really is.]

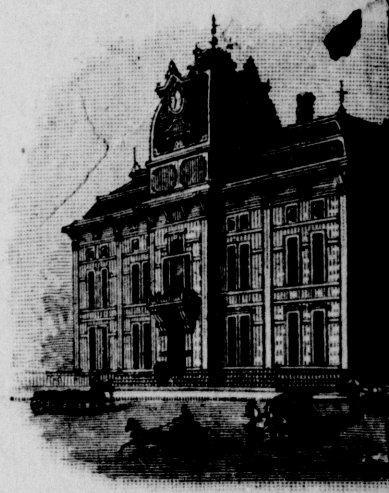
Messenger Witnessed the Destruction by Fire of Wise County's Courthouses and Building of Modern



Wise County's First Courthouse



Present Courthouse



Wise County's Second Courthouse

Some Local and General News Items Taken from Messenger Issues of 1880

Sound the long horn and fall into line; the Decatur Tribune will give its humble support to Samuel J. Tilden.

President Hayes was in the city of New York on the 30th of last month.

Capt. Ira Long passed through town a few days ago on his way to Fort Concho to assume command of a militia company. He was accompanied by John W. Adams.

Mr. Terrell's large stone building is approaching completion, and workmen are busily engaged in dressing stone for the Brown two-story building.

Capt. L. C. Sparkman has abandoned the editorship of the Decatur Tribune, his legal profession requiring his time and attention.

A house belonging to Dr. Cartwright was recently burned.

Dennis Paschall, a young man engaged in teaching school near Mr. Bobo's gin, called upon us last Saturday.

It is said the county commissioners are considering the propriety of buying a "poor farm."

The railroad is completed 12 miles from Fort Worth toward Weatherford.

The Bank saloon was entered through a window and a door.

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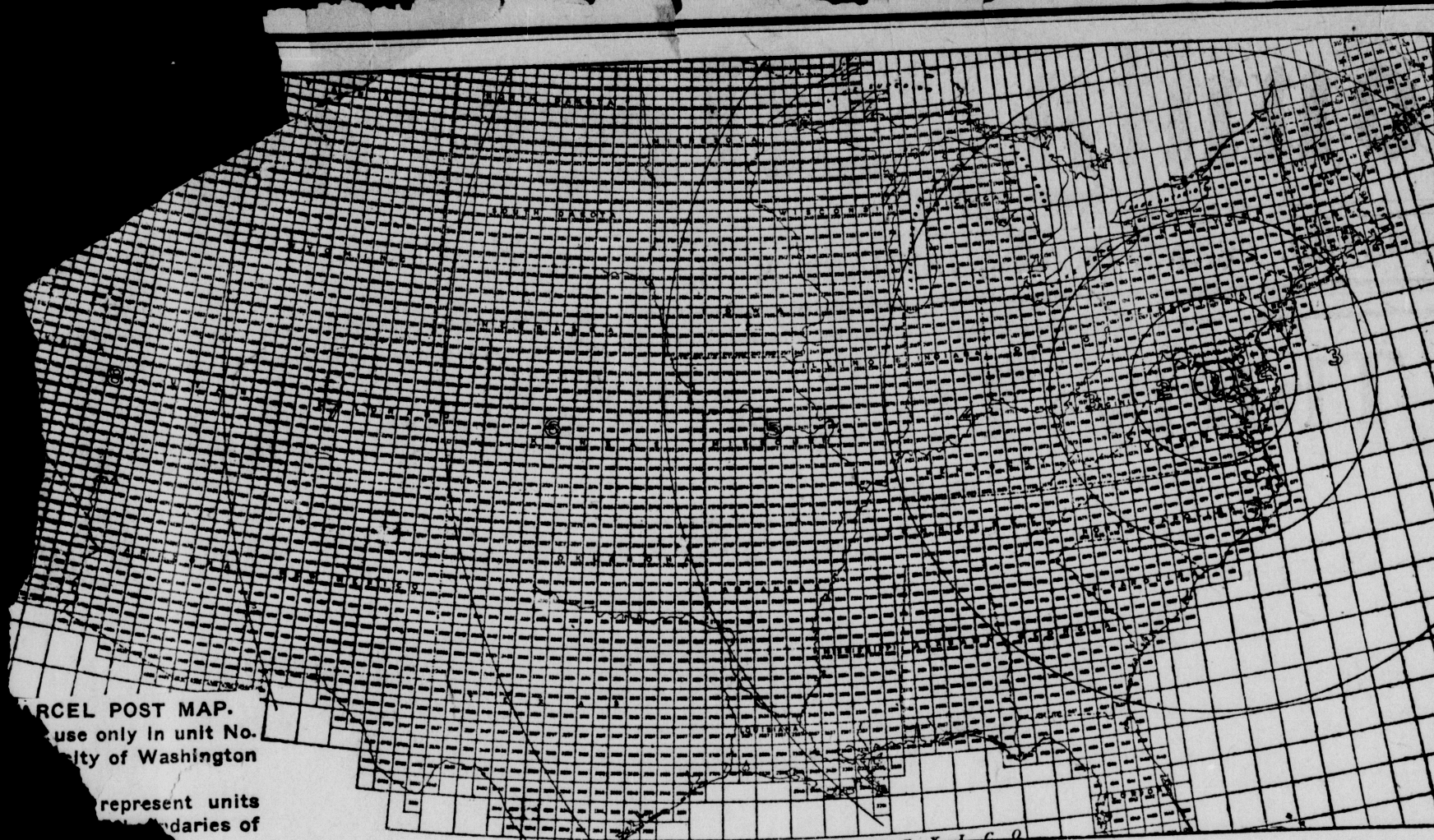
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Street Scenes in Decatur

PARCEL POST MAP.
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RATES OF POSTAGE

Parcels weighing four ounces or less are mailable at the rate of one cent for each ounce or fraction of an ounce, regardless of distance. Parcels weighing more than four ounces are mailable at the pound rate, as shown by the following table, and when mailed at this rate any fraction of a pound is considered a full pound.

	*1st zone	2d	3d	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Wt. Lbs.	Local rate.	zone rate.	zone rate.	zone rate.	zone rate.	zone rate.	zone rate.	zone rate.
1---	\$0.05	\$0.05	\$0.06	\$0.07	\$0.08	\$0.09	\$0.10	\$0.12
2---	.06	.08	.10	.12	.14	.16	.19	.24
3---	.07	.11	.14	.17	.20	.23	.28	.36
4---	.08	.14	.18	.22	.26	.30	.37	.48
5---	.09	.17	.22	.27	.32	.37	.46	.60
6---	.10	.20	.26	.32	.38	.44	.55	.72
7---	.11	.23	.30	.37	.44	.51	.64	.84
8---	.12	.26	.34	.42	.50	.58	.73	.96
9---	.13	.29	.38	.47	.56	.65	.82	1.08
10---	.14	.32	.42	.52	.62	.72	.91	1.20
11---	.15	.35	.46	.57	.68	.79	1.00	1.32

*For a full explanation of the rates of postage in the First Zone see the Parcel Post Guide.

which the zones are drawn. The rates of postage are fixed from the unit in which the sending postoffice is situated, but the price to every place in any zone is just the same. To illustrate, it will cost exactly the same amount to send a parcel from Washington to Erie, Pa., that it costs to send it to Atlanta, Ga., because Erie and Atlanta with reference to Washington are situated in the fourth zone. The rates therefore are fixed from the unit in which the postoffice is located, but they are the same from that office to any point in any one zone.

It will be seen by reference to the table of rates of postage that it will cost more per pound to send a package a long distance than it does to send it a short distance. The rate increases for a package weighing one pound at the rate of one cent for each zone. No package weighing more than 11 pounds can be sent under the new parcel post law. It should be said right here that on the long hauls the parcel post may not be able to compete with the express companies, but that on shorter hauls it can so compete. It was the expressed desire of the legislators and of the postoffice officials that the parcel post system should be made of particular use to persons having farm and factory products to transmit to customers. It is probable that producers must study the rates of postage and the convenience of transmission and compare them with the cost and convenience under present methods before individually a man can determine whether he is to profit or not by the change. Then there is another thing to be considered and which only can be known definitely when fuller regulations have been made to specify exactly what kind of things can be sent by parcel post. It can be said in a general way that anything can be sent which is properly wrapped and which will not injure other mail matter with which it may come in contact.

Copy Foreign Countries.

It is probable that the government will adopt a means of transportation for certain kinds of its merchandise much like those which have been adopted in parcel post countries abroad. What the English call hampers, basket-like arrangements, probably will be adopted, and as these can be kept separate from the ordinary mail matter it is believed that the regulations as finally adopted will allow the sending of eggs, butter, dressed poultry, live poultry, honey, fruit, and other products of the country.

The 11-pound limit for a single package may work at first against any very extended use of the parcel post for some of the articles which have been named. Of course, more weight can be sent if it is sent in different parcels, but the cost in that case would be heavier because the increase per pound on a single package is not great up to 11 pounds.

er single package to be carried and should charge in proportion just what it does now for one package of 11 pounds weight.

Every postmaster in the United States will have a parcel post map like the one which is here reproduced except that the zone lines will be shown with the unit of his postoffice as a center. All that a postmaster will have to do when a parcel is presented for transportation is to find out in what zone the destination of the package lies. His table will show him instantly the rate per-pound from the unit in which his postoffice lies to the zone of the package's destination, the price as has been explained before, to every postoffice in any one zone being the same. The parcel post will take nothing but fourth-class matter. Printed matter is still in the third-class designation. Therefore books cannot be sent by the parcel post system. This the postoffice authorities seem to think is in a way unjust and may work a hardship. It may be that in the future the law will be changed so as to include all printed matter. It seems to be certain that an attempt will be made to bring about this change as speedily as possible.

Must Bear Stamp.

Postmaster General Hitchcock has ordered that postmasters be advised that parcel post packages cannot be accepted for mailing unless they bear a distinctive parcel post stamp and have attached to them the return card of the sender. A series of distinctive stamps is now in course of preparation for this class of mail as required by the law creating the parcel post system. Consignments of these stamps will be ready for shipment to all postoffices in ample time for the establishment of the new system on New Year's day.

The postoffice department has given instruction to every postmaster in the country to enlighten his patrons as much as possible on the general subject of the parcel post and especially on the use of the special stamps and the necessary attachment of the return card. The law requires that all fourth-class matter mailed after January 1, 1913, without parcel post stamps attached shall be treated as "held for postage" matter. Parcel post packages will be mailable only at postoffices, branch postoffices, lettered and local named stations, and such numbered stations as may be designated by the postmasters.

It has been announced by Postmaster General Hitchcock that nearly 70,000 scales will be required for use in the parcel post system which is to go into effect January 1st. He has accordingly authorized the issuance of bids for that number. Two hundred of the largest postoffices and their branches will be supplied with automatic springless scales. The next class of offices, numbering about 10,000, will be given high grade beam scales, while the four class offices, numbering 55,000, will be

now furnished with scales of a limited capacity makes it necessary for the postmaster general to make this very large purchase of scales capable of taking care of the parcel post business. It is understood that this will be the largest single order ever placed for scales.

Rate on Seeds Not Affected.

It should be said that the act of congress which puts a parcel post plan into operation does not in any way affect the postage rate on seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, scions and plants as fixed by section 482 of the postal laws and regulations.

The classification of articles mailable as well as the weight limit, the rates of postage, zone or zones and other conditions of mailability under the act of congress, if the postmaster general shall find on experience "that they or any of them are such as to prevent the shipment of articles desirable, or shall permanently render the cost of the service greater than the receipts of the revenue therefrom, he is hereby authorized, subject to the consent of the interstate commerce commission after investigation, to reform from time to time such classification, weight limit, rates, zone or zones or conditions, in order to promote the service to the public or to insure the receipt of revenue from such service adequate to pay the cost thereof."

Through many years different members of the house and senate have been interested in promoting parcel post legislation. Among the men most active in securing the legislation which soon is to go into effect as law are Senator Jonathan Bourne of Oregon, Representatives David J. Lewis of Maryland and William Sulzer of New York, who has just been elected governor of that state.

To ascertain conditions surrounding the establishment of the parcel post system in places differing widely in size, climate and industries, Postmaster General Hitchcock recently summoned to Washington, to confer with the special parcel post committee, the postmasters of five typical offices. They are William H. Davis, Pittsburg, Pa.; Daniel T. Gerow, Jacksonville, Fla.; M. H. Joster, Wilmington, Del.; E. M. C. Quimby, Suffolk, Va., and Henry N. Bradley, Charlestown, W. Va.

Confer With Postmasters.

The postmasters of the five largest offices in the country have already appeared before the committee, so Pittsburg was represented as being a large first class office, though smaller than any of the greater five, and as being the center of a tremendous manufacturing area. The postmaster of Pittsburg reported that the board of trade of that city has a special parcel post committee, working toward bringing the consumer and producer nearer to each other by the new system. He also said that many of the merchants are planning to have their city-deliveries made by parcel post.

Wilmington, Del., represented a large farming and manufacturing district, with its mail connections close with Philadelphia, one of the largest offices. Jacksonville is the largest office in Florida, and the outlet for all the mail of the state. It is peculiar in having a special increase of force in winter, the tourist season, and the postmaster said that it was expected that travelers would use the parcel post extensively in sending home five and ten-pound packages of fruit.

Suffolk, Va., and Charlestown, W. Va., are both very small second class offices, one in the tide-water district, with large truck interests; the other far inland in an orchard country, with diversified farm products. The postmasters of both offices reported great interest in the parcel post, and said that they had continual inquiries regarding its scope.

From these postmasters the committee was able to glean a great amount of valuable information, which, added to that gained from the recent hearings in Maryland, puts it in a position to plan the stage of the producing farm.

APPROVED RULES FOR PARCEL POST

Postmaster General Issues Regulations Governing System.

WHAT MAY BE SENT BY MAIL

Gives American People Opportunity to Send Farm and Factory Products by Mail From and to Any Point in United States.

Postmaster General Hitchcock has just approved the regulations which cover in detail the articles which may or may not be sent by parcel post. These regulations are now being turned off at the government printing office on a "rush order" and they will be distributed as rapidly as possible.

The rules as to what can be sent and what cannot be sent and the instructions for the preparation of mailable articles with other "official advice" are given here as they have just been prepared by the postoffice department in Washington.

The minimum rate will be five cents for the first pound and three cents for each additional pound to any point not exceeding fifty miles from the office of mailing; the local rate, which is five cents for the first pound and one cent for additional pound, applies to all parcels the delivery of which does not involve their transportation on railway lines. The rates increase for each successive one of the eight zones, the maximum rate being twelve cents a pound, which will carry a parcel across the continent or to any of our possessions. Parcels will be limited to eleven pounds in weight and six feet in length and girth combined.

Mailable Perishable Articles.

Butter, lard and perishable articles such as fish, fresh meats, dressed fowls, vegetables, fruits, berries and articles of a similar nature that decay quickly, when so packed or wrapped as to prevent damage to other mail matter, will be accepted for local delivery either at the office of mailing or on any rural route starting therefrom. When inclosed in an inner cover and a strong outer cover of wood, metal, heavy corrugated pasteboard or other suitable material and wrapped so that nothing can escape from the package, they will be accepted for mailing to any offices within the first zone or within a radius of 50 miles. Butter, lard, or any greasy or oily substance intended for delivery at offices beyond the first zone must be suitably packed. Vegetables and fruit that do not decay quickly will be accepted for mailing to any zone if packed so as to prevent damage to other mail matter. Eggs will be accepted for local delivery when securely packed in a basket or other container. Eggs will be accepted for mailing regardless of distance when each egg is wrapped separately and packed in a container.

There is no restriction on salted, dried, smoked or cured meats and other meat products, but fresh meat in any form will be transported only within the first zone.

Parcels containing perishable articles must be marked "PERISHABLE," and articles likely to spoil within the time reasonably required for transportation and delivery will not be accepted for mailing.

Manufactured Articles.

Manufacturers or dealers intending to transmit articles in considerable quantities are asked to submit to the postmaster for approval a specimen parcel showing the manner of packing.

When sharp pointed instruments are offered for mailing, the points must be capped or encased. Blades must be bound so that they will remain attached to each other or within their handles or sockets.

In Powders, pepper, snuff, or other similar powders not explosive, or any similar pulverized dry substance, not poisonous, may be sent when inclosed in cases made of metal, wood or other material to render impossible the escape of any of the contents. Flour of all kinds must be put up in such manner as to prevent the package breaking or the flour being scattered in the mails.

Queen Bees and Nursery Stock.

Queen bees, live insects, and dried reptiles may be mailed in accordance with the regulations that now apply to other classes of mail.

Seeds of fruit, nursery stock, and all other plant products for preparation may be mailed under the same conditions.

Confectionery and Soap.

Candies, confectionery, yeast cakes, soap in hard cakes, etc., must be inclosed in boxes and so wrapped as to prevent injury to other mail matter.

Scaled original packages of proprietary articles, such as soaps, tobacco, pills, tablets, etc., put up in fixed quantities by the manufacturer, and not in themselves unmailable, will be accepted for mailing when properly wrapped.

Millinery.

Fragile articles, such as millinery, toys, musical instruments, etc., and articles consisting wholly or in part of glass, or contained in glass, must be securely packed and the parcel stamped or labeled "FRAGILE."

for indecent or immoral purposes; all matter otherwise mailable by law, the outside cover or wrapper of which bears and delineation or language of a libelous, scurrilous, defamatory, or threatening character. All such matter, when deposited in a post office or found in the mails, shall be withdrawn and sent to the divisions of dead letters.

Intoxicants, Poisons and Inflammable Materials.

Spirituous, vinous, malted, fermented, or other intoxicating liquors of any kind; poisons of every kind, and acids and compositions containing poison, poisonous animals, insecticides, explosives of every kind, inflammable materials (which are to include matches, kerosene oil, line, naphtha, benzine, turpentine, natures alcohol, etc.), infernal machines, and mechanical, chemical or other devices or compositions which may ignite or explode; disease germs or scabs, and other natural or artificial articles, compositions or materials of whatever kind which may kill, or in any wise injure another person, or damage the mail or other property.

Pistols, Animals and Birds.

Pistols or revolvers, whether in detached parts or otherwise; live dead (and not stuffed) animals, birds or poultry, except as elsewhere provided; raw hides or pelts, guano, or any article having a bad odor, will not be admitted to the mails.

Treatment of Undeliverable Parcels.

Perishable matter will be delivered as promptly as possible, but if such matter can not be delivered and becomes offensive and injurious to health, postmasters may destroy it, or the injurious or offensive portions thereof.

Undeliverable perishable matter which in its nature does not become offensive or injurious to health may be delivered by postmasters to the proper local municipal authority to be distributed to hospitals, asylums, other charitable or reformatory institutions. If there is no such municipal authority, the matter may be delivered to any charitable institution or organization making application therefor. If no application is made, the matter will be destroyed at the expiration of two weeks.

Parcels Improperly Packed.

Postmasters will refuse to receive for mailing parcels not properly inclosed or packed for safe shipment.

When parcels on which the postage is wholly unpaid or insufficiently prepaid is deposited for local delivery and the sender is unknown, notice of detention need not be sent but such matter will be delivered and the deficient postage collected from the addressee by the carrier. If the addressee refuses to pay the postage the matter will be sent to the Division of Dead Letters.

Insurance on Parcels.

A mailable parcel on which the postage is fully prepaid may be insured against loss in an amount equivalent to its actual value, but not to exceed \$50, on payment of a fee of ten cents in parcel post stamps, such stamps to be affixed.

When a parcel is insured, the sender will be given a receipt showing the office and date of mailing and number of the parcel.

When a return receipt is desired by the sender of an insured parcel the postmaster at the mailing office will note the request on the margin of the insurance tag, and the postmaster at the office of address will obtain from the addressee a receipt and mail it to the sender.

The liability for indemnity shall cease when delivery has been effected.

Forwarding of Parcels.

Parcels may be remailed or forwarded on the payment of additional postage at the rate which would be chargeable if they were originally mailed at the forwarding office, which case the necessary stamps will be affixed by the forwarding postmaster. Payment must be made before the parcel is forwarded.

Preparation for Mailing.

Parcels must be prepared for mailing in such manner that the contents can be easily examined. A parcel not be accepted for mailing unless bears the name and address of sender preceded by the word "To".

In addition to the name and address of the sender, which is required will be permissible to write or on the covering of a parcel, or tag or label attached to it, the name of the sender, and to inclose in a small space by means of letters, numbers, names or other description, the character of the parcel, but ample space must be left for the address side for the full name in legible characters and for the necessary postage stamps.

Such as "Merry Christmas" do not open until Christmas New Year," "With best wishes the like, may be placed on the covering of the parcel in such manner as not to interfere with the postage stamps.

Distinctive

The law requires on all matter mailed by parcel post distinctive markings. Postmasters cannot mail parcels that lack distinctive stamps.

Parcel post stamps are the payment of the first, second and when used matter to which be treated as "second class."

Maps

Parcel post maps are treated as second class matter, and are subject to the same rates of postage as other parcels.

MESSANGER'S BIRTHDAY

Thirty-three years ago this week the Messenger came into existence. The paper has weathered some severe storms in its time, but for the past several years the sailing has been good and smooth. The Messenger is the oldest publication on Fort Worth & Denver City railway. In Wise county there is only one other business institution that can claim an uninterrupted business career for anything like the number of years this paper has been going in the homes of Wise county citizens. Lillard & Co. rank second to the Messenger as "nestors" in the business affairs of this section. When the Messenger came into life Judge Patterson was a struggling young attorney; Senator Terrell was a boy, and Joe Perkins was dreaming of long pants and suspenders. Assistant County Attorney French Spencer was not born, and Horace Greeley's advice had not found lodgment in the mind of our Judge Allison, then a strapping young fellow in Sylvan valley North Carolina. S. A. Lillard was a sprightly young business man from the state of Missouri, Guinn Williams was a pupil in the local high school, and Will Helm was several years shy of the voting age. Frank Timberlake had not viewed the azure skies, and Will Terrell was a blubbery "coming president" along with Cliff Cates, Barney Shoemaker and this writer. John Simmons was entertaining his first ambition to teach in the little schoolhouse nestling in a Mississippi valley, Capt. Bellah was teaching in west Texas, and the "go Texas" bee had yet to invade

Tennessee and lay low C. C. Jones. D. W. Frazer and R. E. Carswell were in Panola county, and H. L. Ward was a young clerk in Springtown; Jack Moss was struggling with infantile colic and swamp fever in the marshes of lower Louisiana, and Mont Foster was "makin' eyes" at the girls in the Bethel community. E. O. Lively was acclaimed the best clerk in Wise county. Tom Ball was moulding into a republican and John Rector was playing with tin horns and hobby horses over in Jack; Frank Ford was experiencing trouble in climbing into his first saddle, and Sam Faith was demanding stripped stick candy; Will Workman was catching rabbits and cooking them over driftwood fires in Mississippi, and Ed Blythe was bothered about tumbling over the first precipice in love.

Yes, sir-e-e, the Messenger has been here a long time. When it came—thirty-three years ago—cows, poultry, hogs and horses ran at will on the public square; bar-rooms flourished and the gun-man from the ranches was much in evidence; politics was corrupt as hades and often brute force won the contests. Money was plentiful and gambling rampant.

Through it all the Messenger struggled for a bigger, better town, and today the magnificent progress, the stupendous strides for the best and highest in civilization is seen upon every hand. That the Messenger and its loyal supporters in the trying days of the county had some part in bringing about this happy and substantial result, we claim.

To Dannie Spencer.

(Xmas gift from Pappa to Dannie, Dec. 21, 1912.)

My Dannie girl, with auburn curls
Came home last night with other girls;
Sure, she is pretty, grand and smart,
And I love my Dan with all my heart.

No star shines brighter in the azure
Than does her dazzing, hazel eyes;
God bless and protect my lovely Dan
Throughout life's fleeting and fitful span.

May her life boat sail on peaceful
Guided by him who all things sees;
May her soul remain always pure
As now I know it, certain and sure.

Pure, innocent, and white as snow,
Her life shines radiant with youth
and glow.
So may she glide down the stream of
time
'Til she reaches the realm of the
golden clime.

Now let song and joy and the Christ-
mas bell
Ring, ring, ring for the story they
tell,
That Christ is risen for man to save
From the awful doom of an endless
grave.
—R. F. Spencer.

that the ancient traditional means of disseminating knowledge, the isolated school where only the youthful are taught, the word of mouth and theories handed down, the books, papers and periodicals are, to say the least, slow in the achievement of results, the department plants its superstructure of education on the hither side of all and feeds its pabulum on the spot for immediate absorption and use. The department and the farmer rub elbows, meet face to face. The possibility of bigger profits through the use of better ways are demonstrated. An experiment worked out conclusively under the eyes always challenges attention whether the on-looker wills it or no. If it proves the case in any community that some one or several farmers will not engage in the experiments then all these cannot help observing the results obtained possibly further up the road on the farm of some more amiable neighbor. No man can go with his eyes constantly averted; some time or many times he will be caught unawares and in the act of beholding and when he looks on a demonstration feat faithfully and sincerely farmed an impression will root itself deep down in his nature and it will be equivalent to just that much impetus and knowledge transmitted.

A single experiment is carried through the season in this wise. The farmer and the agent consult together, select the crop or crops to be grown and decide on the method of cultivation, etc. It is the policy of the government to insist on the adoption of its own plans in reference to any experiment and to this the farmer usually yields. The plan is now made up of the following combinations, what the farmer himself knows, and the knowledge furnished by the department and the agent, the whole to be practically and systematically worked out. The department endeavors to foist nothing strange and erratic on its workers. It teaches the larger principles that underlie all good farming and leaves in large measure the minor practices to be worked out by the agent and cooperating farmer. Very often the department agent finds exceptional instances wherein farmers are following as efficient methods as it itself could advise or teach and from all such instances it usually finds something to learn and treasure and convey to other farmers. It is largely by such methods that it has accumulated its great store of information as to the farming practices and principles that obtain the country over. It is far from the government's attitude to assume a giant "know it all" arrogance. Its chiefest effort is to cooperate, to stimulate and inspire and perhaps after all its best work is done in the region of bringing out all that is best in the efforts of its workers. But now look at the demonstration plat in its final stages. It has been located on the average soil of the farm and as near the big road as possible. Operations were begun on it early in the fall previous when under the instructions of the agent, the demonstrator plowed deep, slightly deeper than he had been in the practice of breaking his land. He had turned under all the vegetable matter and rubbish lying on top of the ground for the purpose of providing essential humus. The plat has been visited about once a month by the agent and the farmer in charge of it given instructions in accordance with the season and the needs of the soil and crop. It is taken for granted that the farmer has been faithful and sincere and desirous of working and learning and that he has lived up to the instructions of the agent. If so, and other things being equal there is in midsummer a promise of a splendid yield from the crops on the plat, but the farmer has discovered that he has plowed and cultivated longer and more than he ever did before in any system of farm practices followed. Added to this careful tillage the essen-

Federal Demonstration Work

Cliff D. Cates

The endeavor here will be to show how demonstration farming operates, to prove its necessity and superiority above other means of disseminating practicable knowledge about improved farming methods. It is understood the treatment of this phase of the subject is a considerable deviation from logical order, which would preclude the how of a movement being told before the why. It may be stated however, that the basis of an explanation, including the data upon which it is founded, is only partially in hand upon which it is impracticable to present a sufficient justification of the work of demonstration at this time.

The movement in Wise county is presently organized as follows. Mr. D. B. Gilliland, the county special agent, has a joint contract with this county and the federal Department of Agriculture in pursuance of which he devotes about nine months' work in the year, for which he receives \$800, of which Wise county pays \$450 and the federal government \$350. In addition the national government appropriated last year \$150 to the use of the manager of the girls' clubs, totaling in all, a national expenditure in Wise county of \$500.

It may be here remarked incidentally that all the money stays in the county, that it is paid to home people and that it still circulates among the people from whence it was derived. Further incidental remarks might be passed on the subject of the annual salary paid the agent, as to whether it is too much or too little. It has been claimed that the salary was too much for the services conferred, but the man that passed the criticism could hardly have had other pursuits and their earnings in mind when his objections were urged. A train brakeman these days gets as much or more for a month's work than is paid the average government agent. Plenty of clerks, bookkeepers and like character of employees are paid as well, or as it is thought by some as badly. And it must be borne in mind that these last occupations are largely mechanical in their nature, by which it is meant that the functions performed under them are of such character that they can be accomplished without investment of any original judgment or intellectual action, whereas, on the other hand, the office of county agricultural agent demands at each juncture of the service performed the use of profound reflection carefully adapted to the different phases of the work in hand. In other words, the agricultural agent must be a man versatile in many respects. He must be a keen judge of human nature; in a certain sense he must be a tactician and a diplomat and he must be possessed of good common sense. In the world markets these days such qualities are said to be highly prized and extremely profitable to the fortunate possessor of them. And it must not be forgotten that the agent has his expenses to pay out of his own earnings. Unlike the other occupations mentioned before the agent must have a horse and buggy with which to get about. He must feed himself and his horse and must keep up the wear

and tear on his vehicle and he must defray the numerous other expenses which the rugged character of his work entails. And then the man who fills the office must be endowed with high qualities of mind and character, perquisites hinted at a while ago but not completely. He must be endowed with inexhaustible patience and patriotism, patience to overcome about the hardest set of difficulties that ever confronted any work and constant patriotism to imbue him with essential heartfelt interest in the welfare of the subjects with which he works and the country as a whole. Upon which basis it will be again affirmed that the wages paid this officer are insufficient when the high character of his services is considered, when it is considered what is paid in wages in other pursuits, and that only a rare kind of a man can fill the place.

Now as to the mode of operation. There are four channels through which government helpfulness in this connection directs itself, viz: the demonstration farmer, the cooperation farmer, boys' corn and cotton clubs and girls' canning clubs. The county agent practically oversees them all but his serious duties are restricted within the limits of demonstration farming. The demonstration farmer is a man who works out his problems directly under the eyes of the agent. The farmer assigns a plot of ground, say five acres, to the purposes in hand. He plows, plants, cultivates and harvests under the advice and instruction of the agent who visits him about once a month throughout the crop making year. The crop may be either cotton or corn or equally divided between both or it may be some other staple crop knowledge in the growing of which the farmer desires. He may be the only demonstration farmer in his community or he may be one of several, the idea of the government being to secure as many influential farmers in each of the several communities of the county as will consent to go in the enterprise. No costs are attached and in many counties of the south fresh seed has been given to each demonstrator either by the department or the county in which the work exists or else through commercial club action. Last year Mr. Gilliland had one hundred such demonstrators distributed in all the various parts of Wise county.

There is a wide distinction between the cooperator and the demonstration farmer. While the last is under the active instruction of the county agent the cooperator is concerned with the movement only by letters from the department which transmits to him advice and instructions as he needs it in the course of his work. Although he is secured and recommended by the agent he is visited on his farm by the latter only when it is convenient to do so.

The boys' and girls' clubs will be considered separately later on.

It is on the demonstration farmer acting in association with the county agent that the government looks with most favor. It is through such instrumentality that the government transmits its science and efficiency and sets up its school directly on the farm. Proceeding on the assumption

tial moisture and chemical conditions have been maintained in the soil in reach of the roots of the plants and crop no doubt shows up a better promise than any other of like kind in the neighborhood. Being on the road it begins to attract attention then. Being on the farm of the demonstrator he himself is convinced. Harvesting comes with the fall of the year, the crops being carefully weighed, the land having already been carefully measured. In nine cases out of ten the plat, if it has been faithfully worked, shows a yield superior to that obtained anywhere else in the community with respect to a similar crop and a like quantity of land. The news of it spreads. It is discussed at church, on the road, at town, everywhere men meet and incidentally discuss their business. The crop itself has all along through the spring and summer flung its green challenge to passers on the road so that they who looked learned, and were convinced. Thirty farmers have visited the plat and studied the methods followed if the government estimates have not gone awry. In this way the gospel of good farming spreads. It is a quicker method than schools, books, papers, tradition and teachers. It gets directly to the mature farmers as well as the younger ones, the first being a class who, so far, have participated little in any endeavors to inculcate good farming methods. In this way the country is built up gradually if slowly to a stable and profitable basis. Farming and all the interests depending upon it are helped.

Must Believe It

When Well-Known People Tell It So Plainly

When public endorsement is made by a representative citizen of Decatur the proof is positive. You must believe it. Read this testimony. Every backache sufferer, every man, woman or child with any kidney trouble will find profit in the reading.

T. L. McConnell, blacksmith, Decatur, Texas, says: "About a year and a half ago I was hurt while shoeing a horse and my kidneys were affected. I went to Ford & Thomason's drug store and asked for a good kidney medicine. They told me to try Doan's Kidney Pills and I must say that this remedy did me a world of good. I used two boxes and was entirely cured. I have had no occasion to take a kidney medicine since then and can therefore highly recommend Doan's Kidney Pills to any one suffering with kidney complaint."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50c. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

Frank J. Ford. L. D. Ratliff
Ford & Ratliff
LAWYERS
Decatur, Texas

J. V. PATTERSON
ATTORNEY

Office up-stairs in the Berger building

"The Store for All the People"

extends greetings of the season to the
many friends and patrons

The year just closed has been good and kind
to us and we are indebted to the people of
Decatur and community for the magnifi-
cent volume of business done by our firm.
We thank you, and wish for you and yours

Good Luck, Prosperity, Happiness
throughout 1913

Bellah & Sons' Company

BACKACHE

Is an indication of kidney trouble. It means much to
victim because the deadly Bright's Disease begins in
such symptoms.

PRICKLY ASH BITTERS

Is a successful remedy for diseased kidneys. It
strengthens the suffering kidneys, helps them to
perform their duties properly and by cleansing and
regulating the bowels it drives out unhealthy con-
ditions; restores strength and vigorous health.

Get the Genuine with the Figure "3" in Red on Front Label.
Sold by Druggists. Price \$1.00 per bottle.

FOR SALE BY C. B. GUNN

NEW REPAIR SHOP

Bring your shoes,
cycles, guns and gel
al repair work to t
Building Behind Dallas' Groc

W. B. PHILLIPS

"The Sanitar"

BARBER SHOP

Always Satisfactory Serv

Shoemaker, Hopson & Phillips
Southeast Corner Square.

DILL'S

Boarding House

East Main Street, De
The best the market affords
courteous treatment. \$1.00 per

R. F. SPENCER, Jr.
Spencer &
LAWYER

Office over First N
Decatur, T

If you are hungry
tines. Everything

Best chili
anti

Friday, Jan. 3, 1913.

Most Widely Circulated Paper in Wise County.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Any erroneous reflections upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of the Messenger will be gladly corrected upon its being brought to the attention of the publishers.

How would Marse Henry Watterson look in Wilson's cabinet?

Certainly, Mr. Wilson is looking to Texas for a cabinet officer.

The water wagon picked up its usual load early Wednesday morning. If you are on, hold tight.

Let the citizens of this town resolve to stand by the city council in its efforts to give us a better lighted Decatur.

At some future time we will cast up the entire list of postoffice applicants in Wise county. Our counting machine has been given due notice.

No, the fellow who is full of booze, with blood in his eye and a touch of h— in his neck, can't fully appreciate the significance of the Prince of Peace's birthday.

pulling together we can make our most prosperous town on the river road. Get in on the line—other words, get Messenger's spine in your bones.

After this old world has been the spite, envy and mess in the make-up of the back into the hot red to Wise county.

an abundance of original men, and ladies, applying at the federal lunch counter and Underwood shouters and bagged and placed in the of the line.

Helen Gould is to marry a red American. If her sister exhibited a like amount of judgement the scrap heap of nobility would have long ago been two broken down skates.

at 98th meridian road run through Wonderful Wise and standing majestically on the hereabout, we will take the more gasoline and read goggles.

Johnson, editor-in-chief of the castle's classy weekly, is back on a rattling good stuff is applied in the Register's editorial. Now, M Newcastle had the county courthouse and the belonging thereto, some real could be claimed by that hust-

suggestion brimful of merit and good judgement—Start the right, in a manner that will you to feel, look and perform patriot three hundred and six—all measured days in 1913—down a dollar on our cloth-editorial table and have your rolled on Messenger's grow-

Colonel George Bailey, the live democrat of the Jeff-type in Texas south of Wise belongs the "honor" of having that fellow now holding of governor of South Carolina, up to and including this, of December, 1912, no one forth to dispute the claims Houston discoverer.

ate and the other kind of politi-old the old state was doom-the bow-wows if Colquitt was back in office. At this writ-a. m., Monday, December 29, e hundred and seventy-three our-days since the primary eports from all sections say dding the waves majesti-gum such a vessel; why ng a leak and verify

ver met the lodge ow who entertains a g all the secret or-unity? He is a most but a pang of pity your heart when dreams and yearn-elf by being and that order endeavors to collater-

Do our people appreciate the value of the proposed 98th meridian road which is to run from the Canadian border south to the gulf of Mexico? Do we fully realize the great importance of such a highway to the commercial interests of the counties through which it passes? We trow not. At least not any great number of the people. Why this lack of interest is not understandable to the Messenger. Citizens, the benefits coming from the building of this highway are vastly more remunerative to the business affairs of the county than another railway line. Its building sounds the death knell of bad roads throughout the county; it brings about the best in civilization. Will we awake?

Now, honest Ingun, how many charitable deeds did you perform during the holiday season? Did you shed briny tears and pray for the poor while holding a death-like grip on your purse strings? Were you driving at a furious rate to answer the church bell's summons while want stalked about in cottages in the shadows of the towering copola? Stand up, you moving, brea hing personification of hypocrisy and answer. You may sing praises and peans to the Holy One 'til the crack of doom, and wear callused spots on your knees as large as the hand of an Irish king snip in supplications—yet, if you fail to practice your preachments, you are damaging the great cause and seriously endangering the "church workers" influence with the sinful world.

ONCE ENOUGH FOR PARROT

Bird's Tour of Discovery Forced Stop page of Mill, but It Taught Him Wisdom.

The sixty-odd thousand spindles of the Sharp Mill at New Bedford, Mass. suddenly ceased to whirl the other day and 650 operatives sat idle at their machines. And it was all the fault of Jimmie, a parrot, the mascot of the engine room.

Jimmie is the pet not only of the engine room, but of the whole mill from Agent Robert Schofield down. It's "Hello, Jimmie" from all who enter the engine room on any errand, and Jimmie comes back with his cordial "Hello."

It was this noisy bird that shut down the mill. Whether the hum of the big rope drive became to him suddenly the murmur of south winds in tropical trees, or whether mere caprice lured him, he flew right up among the rushing ropes and rapidly revolving pulleys. The engineer saw him mount, but it was too late to stop him. And so off went the steam, production or no production, and the engine room force rushed to see what had become of Jimmie.

He had been hurried over the top of the big pulley to the floor below. They found him there, ruffled wings, badly shaken up, and still dazed from his rough adventure, but physically uninjured. And every one gave thanks, as the mascot was borne back to his perch at the other end of the room, with the admonition never to try it again.

Jimmie, indeed, from that hour became a saddler and wiser bird. He has not tried the experience again; consequently the mill's sixty thousand spindles have revolved throughout the days without interruption. That one meeting with the whirling ropes was enough for the parrot.

Jimmie, however, condescended to descend from his perch again one day, when a cat, whose rightful residence is in the basement under the engine room, ventured within the parrot's domain. Jimmie evidently believes that in him alone is vested the right to act as mascot of the engine room. He drove the cat on the run.

Jimmie is the property of Mr. Sharp himself, and was brought by him to the mill. He is a macaw and observes the fashions of his species by having a very long tail and a strong, hooked bill. His plumage is brilliant. His original home was South America. Like other inhabitants of that part of the world, he is a revolutionist. His invasion of the region of belts and pulleys stopped the mill. The intrusion of the cat caused her ignoble retreat.

He is as polished in his manners as a Spaniard, and as flighty in his temper as a Venezuelan insurrectionist. He is, in fine, of the south, polite, hot tempered, sporting gorgeous raiment, and fearless of death.

Leave your laundry for us. We pay for all lost or torn up garments. DICKSON & SMITH.

News from Over the County

From Messenger County Correspondents

RHOME

Dec. 30.—George Wilson and wife of Whitesboro, were here last week.

Mrs. Carl Buerbaum and little son of Dallas, were guests of Mrs. J. R. Troxell Sunday.

Mrs. J. A. Alexander and Miss Fee White of Fort Worth, spent Christmas with homefolks.

Marco Hill and wife of Hillsboro, are here.

Sam Ferguson and wife of Alvord, were here last week.

Miss Mae Otis entertained with progressive "42" last Thursday evening. Refreshments were served.

Fred Brown and family are here from Fort Worth.

Miss Polly Harrison spent last week at Newark.

Misses Virgie and Bess Bobo have returned to D. B. C.

Miss Ona White of Justin, visited her parents last week.

"Dot, the Miner's Daughter," a home talent play, has been successfully staged at Rhome, Newark and Aurora within the past two weeks. The play is under the management of Mrs. M. W. Burch and Prof. Otis. The troupe will go to Boyd next Saturday night. Proceeds used in seating our auditorium.

Jim Bowlin and wife are here from Paradise.

James Simms and wife of Kirkland, spent Christmas with Mrs. Simms' parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. George.

Miss Callie Hill returns Tuesday to Decatur college.

H. C. Hazen has returned from Ft. Worth.

Robert Leonard was the guest of his parents thru the holidays.

Mrs. A. N. Rivers and children of Celina, are visiting Squire and Mrs. C. C. Leonard.

Little Misses Ruth and Mary Frances Bennet of Decatur, are visiting here.

Mrs. Sallie Long has returned from a week's visit with relatives at Sanger and Fort Worth.

Mrs. M. W. Burch was in Fort Worth Monday.

THE CRIMSON CHRISTMAS.

Careful readers of the newspapers have not failed to notice the one dark stain upon the American Christmas, and that is the stain of blood. From every section of the union tragedies are reported, and these with the suicides and other crimes, constitute a black page upon our modern civilization. True, the homicide wave is a regular thing throughout the year, but the tide appears to rise a little higher at Christmas than at other times.

We are accustomed to regard Christmas a season of happiness and extraordinary efforts are made to make it so. The individual citizen goes to extreme lengths in instilling Christmas happiness in his own domestic circle, large business concerns are in numerous instances generous toward their employes, government seeks to carry the spirit of Christmas into the prisons, the churches and charitable societies administer to the poor.

But with all this effort, the happiness of Christmas is hardly more accentuated than its misery. Almost every community on the continent reports some distressing tragedy to remind us that the earth is full of woe and that its sombre effects cast their shadow upon the Christmas glow. Disappointment, poverty, misery, sickness, envy, hatred and malice all contribute to the bloody story, and all these agencies of evil appear to be more active Christmas than at other times.

What is the cause? And what is the remedy?

The shallow mind will at once attribute the trouble to overindulgence in liquor, but it must be far deeper than that. No doubt overindulgence is a contributory cause, but we see tragedy stalking about in communities where liquor is almost unknown. It must be that the sorrows of life from which few are free affect many minds during the Christmas time. These sorrows are largely associated with poverty and destitution. Our economic mal-adjustments are unquestionably responsible for much of the poverty and destitution, and naturally enough envy, hatred and malice flourish where society presents so many extreme conditions.

If overindulgence were responsible for Christmas tragedies, we might see many of them in England, but we do not. Therefore we must look for the cause among the other weak spots of American civilization.

No doubt if we could ever successfully deal with the murder problem at other times of the year, we would not

LIBERTY

Mr. Bee Hudson and Miss Kittie Boydston were married Sunday.

Frank Meek and son, Carl, are visiting at Arlington.

Allie Hague has bought the Sandusky place and will move to same.

Mrs. Terrel Meek of Fort Worth, visited Frank Meek and family during the holidays.

J. C. Davis and daughter, Annie, spent the holidays in Southern Texas visiting the former's uncle.

George Gentry and family have moved. They will be greatly missed in this community.

SLIDELL

Mrs. Jim Rudd underwent an operation last week, and has since been improving.

School opened again Monday after a week's vacation.

The baby of Allen Pruett and wife died last Friday morning.

Kit Balthrop and wife of Ardmore, Okla., returned to their home this week after a week's visit with friends and relatives.

H. T. Higgs of Denton, was here this week in his big car.

Chas. Muncy and family of Collins county, are visiting M. L. Muncy.

Steve Watson left this week for Dallas to take a business course.

Walter Doyle and wife returned this week from New Mexico. Walter also visited Old Mexico.

L. M. Atcheson, cashier of the First State bank, went to Dallas this week to purchase a big Case auto.

Miss Eunice Turner is on the sick list.

James Freeman this week moved to the Bathrope farm.

John Rainey returned this week from Arkansas, bringing back with him a beautiful bride. We extend congratulations.

Dr. D. Y. Stem on last Saturday operated on the twelve-year-old girl of Tom Maxwell. The patient is doing nicely.

have so many shocks at Christmas time, and Christmas is going to be the bloody season in the United States until we find a way to discourage the taking of life at all times.

What is needed is a stronger sentiment for the protection of human life, a more altruistic spirit among the people to the end that social injustice may vanish, and a determination to set up correct economic standards that will restore that element of equality of opportunity which will obliterate class hatred. The churches can do much in bringing about this better state of mind among the people by stressing the fundamentals of religion and establishing in the hearts of the people a deeper insight into the mission of Christ. So can the law help by fixing the spirit of justice in the government.

It is a reproach upon our civilization that the anniversary of the birth of the Prince of Peace should be made the occasion of unloosing the darkest passions of the human heart. —Houston Post.

Today the Messenger publishes an interesting article anent the parcels post system. Read it and familiarize yourself with the workings of this

ALVORD

School opened Monday after a vacation of a week. Two of the teachers, Misses Williams and Wilhite, spent Xmas with homefolks at Greenwood.

A. P. Valkman and Miss Leona Krudwig were married on Dec. 29th by Rev. W. O. Barnett.

Some of the Alvord visitors during the holidays were: A. A. Jackson and family, W. H. Stapleton and family and Nellebeth O'Brien of Denton, Mrs. Nell Childress of Forney, Mrs. Purcell of Burk Burnett, Berchal Speer of D. D. college Austin, Chas. Flannery of Trinity university, Waxahachie, Clyde and Beulah Hollabaugh of Decatur college, Nell Dillingham of Goree, Jewell Covington and Harry Walker of Dallas, Will Wright and family of Abilene, Irl Harvey, Robert and Bessie Bryant of Mesquite, Clay Brite and family, R. P. Webb and family of Wichita, W. L. Parker and family of Cordell, Ok., Mr. Sockwell and family of Caddo Mills, Emmett and Leslie Bunch of Waco, Shem Hatchett of Clarendon, W. D. Davis and family of Burk Burnett, Bert Brite and family of Sunset, Prof. A. Tibbet and wife of Nocona, Mrs. Emma Blakeney of Childress, Wiley Jones and wife of Dallas, Mamie Griffith of Lela Lake, Kurren O'Brien of Stanton, Floyd Covington of Paradise, Mrs. Jackson and John Alexander and wife of Olney, Ben Prior and family of Slidell, Hattie Miller of Fort Worth, Mrs. Lula Berry of Nocona, Willie Staggs, Nellie and Frankie Hatchett of Vernon, Horace Bishop of Bowie, Oma Hollabaugh of Sunset, Belle Tibbit of Park Springs, Mrs. Dr. Fullingim of Denton.

Jim B. Thomas and wife spent Sunday in Fort Worth.

Born to Jack Ball and wife, the 22; a daughter.

Mrs. R. L. Lemay visited her daughter at New Castle during Christmas.

Mrs. J. C. Hines spent several days in Fort Worth and Dallas.

A. Slaton is back from a visit at Memphis.

The baby of A. A. Finney and wife died this week.

The little son of Robert Adcock and wife is very sick at this time.

Mrs. Lucy Oden of Dallas spent a few days with her parents here.

great benefit to the farmer. That it will put a stop brake to the outlandish charges of express companies and drive a healthy number of them out of business is certain. Parcel post rates are low, and the reliability of your Uncle Sam counts as a big factor in patronizing the p. p.

Now, that Christmas is over and the rounds of turkey, etc., etc., have had their innings, let us get down to work on that 98th meridian national highway.

Famous Stage Beauties

look with horror upon skin eruptions, blotches, sores or pimples. They don't have them, nor will any one who uses Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It glorifies the face. Eczema or salt rheum vanish before it. It cures sore lips, chapped hands, babbilains; heals burns, cuts and bruises. Unequaled for piles. Only 25 cents at Ford & Thomas's.

Valentines as fine as you can buy at Valentines—two doors west of post-office.

Twenty Years Ago

Jan. 14, 1893—A boy of Representative Tankersley went to Austin this week to accept a position as a in the halls of representatives.

Last Tuesday Deputy Sheriff Moon arrived from Atlanta, Ga., with Dr. B. F. Garrison, who is indicted in this county for the killing of Jim Stephens at Alvord. A large crowd thronged to the train and the jail to see him, and the sheriff with some difficulty elbowed his way from the train to the carriage. A negro woman was doing Dr. Garrison's washing for him in Atlanta and found in his pocket a letter from his brother with a newspaper clipping giving an account of the killing. She turned same over to the police which led to his arrest.

The first session of the Northwest Texas Baptist college opened in the Brady block on Wednesday of this week.

Gen. Ben F. Butler, of Boston, died on Tuesday of this week.

The country boy or town boy who as too soon will have to be making his own way should be encouraged in every way possible to continue as long as he will in school. Somehow a writer has the notion that in a majority of cases, if a boy musters energy and initiative enough to finish a high school course, he has surmounted the most discouraging period of his schooling and will be more likely, having achieved thus much, to go on and fit himself still further for some useful work in the world. If he gives up much before this time it seems to be a sort of indication of a lack of gumption and initiative, and if this be the case he is at once, as it were, predestined to do just the common work of the world, which, though honorable enough in itself, is not as honorable as it would be if the one engaged in it were not capable of doing work of a higher grade.

RECIPROCAL DEMURRAGE RULE.

In the great state of Washington the public service commission has lately promulgated and put in force a reciprocal demurrage rule which makes it necessary for railroads to provide ships with cars within a specified time, at some points three and at others six days after notice. Failing to do so, railroads must pay a penalty of \$1 a day. A similar penalty is imposed if transportation companies fail to notify a consignee of the presence of a car within twenty-four hours after its arrival. The order of the commission also requires of railroads that they shall carry cars of produce not less than fifty miles a day. This reciprocal demurrage plan would seem to be an excellent one, and one worth copying in other states.

BLACKHEAD KILLING TURKEYS.

So completely have some turkey raising sections in New England become infested with the incurable malady known as blackhead that the output of turkeys from that section has been reduced 40 per cent in the past ten years. The disease is caused by a germ and is spread by being carried on the feet of the turkeys and by sparrows that frequent the yards where the turkeys are kept, and no cure or preventive has as yet been discovered. Those who have made a study of the problem seem to think that the raising of turkeys will have to be transferred largely from eastern to central and western states, where the germs of blackhead have not yet been introduced.

Majestic Saturday Show 5 Cents

The Majestic's contract with the Decatur merchants for a free Saturday moving picture show expired last Saturday, Dec. 29th. I have decided to continue the Saturday afternoon show for the benefit of the country people for the small admission price of

5 Cents To Everybody

Entire change of pictures every Saturday—3 big full reels of interesting pictures. Come and stay as long as you like. Show begins every Saturday 1:30 p. m. lasts till 4:30. Everybody come.

E. W. BLTHE MANAGER

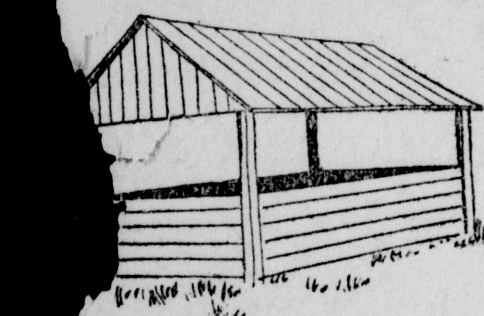
FARM AND BEE'S

ODD MANURE SHED NEEDED

Protection should cover a door at end of Alley Back of Stalls—Much Fertilizer Saved.

ashed may easily be built at one end of the barn for the gathering and collection of manure against the door. The shed should cover a door at the end of the alley behind stalls, and the floor of the barn arranged with a drop that all manure, both liquid and solid, is caught and easily moved toward the door and this shed. If the fields are dry enough the manure spreader may be driven under the shed and loaded directly from the barn door.

If the fields are too wet for use of spreader then the manure may be collected from rain and consequent waste. The only thing that could be added to this shed to make it perfect is its use would be a concrete floor with a cistern into which all the liquid manure could drain. In the



A Good Manure Shed.

presence of this use oat straw for bedding whenever possible, as this will serve to absorb practically all of the liquid part of the manure.

Taken in the aggregate, there can be no question that thousands of dollars' worth of valuable fertilizer is wasted each year through loss of liquid manure and through the leeching of manure piles that are stored in the barn yards without shelter. The question of the best method in which to preserve the liquid manure is well worthy of study.

The Agricultural College of Manhattan, Kan., has its large barn paved with stone, which drains to a central cistern, where all the liquid manure is collected and later pumped out for distribution on the grass and other crops.

BULLETIN OF HONEY PRODUCT

Circular of Particular Interest to Bee Keepers Issued by the Department of Agriculture.

Farmers Bulletin No. 503, United States department of agriculture, has recently sent out a bulletin on comb honey that will be of particular interest to bee keepers. It is by George S. Demuth, agricultural assistant, bureau of entomology, and treats at considerable length of the comb product, analyzing the best practice and pointing out some essentials of the production of maximum quality of the best grades.

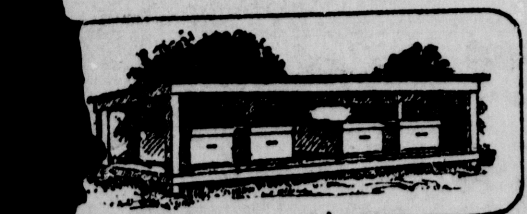
The bulletin is mainly an argument in favor of the production of attractive, high quality comb honey, and since this combination can only be secured in rather limited areas, it is urged that those only who are so favored by location will find it profitable to run to comb honey.

The bulletin also calls attention to the fact that the tendency in the keeping is decidedly toward the production of extracted, rather than comb honey, and it says, if the general public finally becomes convinced of the purity and wholesomeness of extracted honey, it will become a staple article of food. "Present tendencies, therefore, emphasize the desirability of comb honey of the most attractive appearance possible."

PROTECTION FOR BEE HIVES

Covered Stand Found Satisfactory for Winter and Summer and for Interchange of Chambers.

The stand, shown in the illustration, will do very well for both winter and summer. The stand and ends may be boarded up and the hives packed with leaves for winter. If made 7 feet long and 3 feet wide it will accommodate four hives. The hives are set in two pairs with a space between each of



Covered Hive Stand.

the pairs the width of a hives. This is convenient when making the spring interchange of brood chambers. The 4-inch sills on which the hives rest are 1 1/2 and 2 inches from the ground, the sills being the highest. The stands are made of light material and are high enough to allow of necessary

ONLY PROPER REVENGE

REBUKING THE PRESUMPTION OF THE MARRIED WOMAN.

Too Many Seek to Probe Into the Heart Secrets of Their Less Fortunate Sisters, and Deserve Severe Treatment.

A good many inferences might be made about her own experience in preserving the tender passion with a live husband. To write so feelingly of the preservative qualities of a dead lover naturally suggests that a living spouse gave her cause to go some coddling at the run-down heels of sentiment. But—that did not excuse her impertinence! Nothing gave her the right in the sight of God, man or other women; nothing excused her.

A cowboy with a record for men he had killed finally met his match. His admiring friends were "stumped" to find an epitaph to put upon the monument they build him. At last they had graven there in chaste and forceful simplicity, "He done his durnedest." I, too, faltering before the futility of language as a means of expressing just what the married woman does who asks the impertinent question, say, "She does—" It isn't necessary to repeat the quotation.

Why, the married woman who does it is a social ghou! cavorting heedlessly, wantonly, cruelly, hideously on the grave of dead hopes, gouging her question into the body of lost love! Before she married she was like other women thoroughfarers. Afterward, seated in the matrimonial automobile, she dashes headlong among the ones who still walk and knocks the very breath out of them. Apparently, she thinks the marriage machine is meant to send single pedestrians scurrying and dodging. Anyway, that's the use she makes of it.

If married women forget how it feels to be unmarried and asked why, here is telling them! It feels painful and lonely and sad. It takes sweetness and courage and an enormous amount of the good, garden variety of sense to bear up gracefully. And when idle or thoughtless curiosity goes digging and snagging and punching about in the sore and sacred places of the heart, the suffering and the rage it creates is too awful to mention.

What really ought to happen to these inquiring matrons is this: When one asks a maid the question, the maid should scare her into galloping hysterics by looking meaningly at her one and only husband and observing, on expression—"The man I love is married!"

The matron would THINK. Indeed, she would be thinking even while she hurriedly pleaded an engagement and piled her husband out of the maid's dangerous neighborhood. Possibly that is all that is needed—just to set the married interrogators thinking—to make them realize the enormity of their offense. Surely the utter violation of good taste, the inexcusable intrusion into personal affairs, the suffering they carelessly create must make them pause.

If a wife asks the REASON and a maid insinuates that SHE is IT, she levels the popgun of her impertinent inquiry full in the face of another spinster. And every matron made to think—and feel a little wholesome fear, perhaps—will mean one less maid, at least, to be grilled on the hot plate of the married woman's curiosity.

If every pretty and attractive unmarried woman would follow out this suggestion a reformation would be effected that would enable us to preserve the sacredness of our memories or our pride or—our reputations! It's worth trying!—New York Press.

What It Comes To.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley told in an address in Washington a story apropos of food adulteration.

"There was a man," he said, "who manufactured so-called silver spoons. A dealer bought largely from him, but was always clamoring for a lower price.

"But I can't lower the price," the manufacturer would say, "unless I put in more lead."

"All right—more lead, by all means," This the dealer reply.

"The other week the dealer wired that he would take an enormous consignment of spoons if the price were cut a further ten per cent.

"I can't cut the price another penny," the manufacturer wired back.

"Put in more lead," wired the dealer.

"Impossible," was the manufacturer's reply. "Last lot I shipped you were all lead."

No Change.

They had parted years ago. Now, in the deepening shadows of Scotland's twilight, they met again.

"Here be the old stile, Annie," he said.

"Aye; and here be our initials that you carved, John," she replied.

The ensuing silence was only broken by the buzzing of an aviator overhead.

Honey-laden memories thrilled through the twilight and flushed their glowing cheeks.

"Ah, Annie," exclaimed John, suddenly seizing her fair, slim hand, "ye're just as beautiful as ye ever were, ah! I hae never forgotten ye, my bonnie lass!"

"And ye, John," she cried, while her blue een moistened tremulously, "are just as big a leear as ever, an' I believe ye jist the same!"

ODD LAPSES OF MIND

SCHOLARS AND OTHERS NOTED FOR ECCENTRICITY.

Forgetfulness One of the "Strong Points" of Many Able and Accomplished Men—Sometimes the Result of Self-Hypnotism.

Some years ago I had to speak at a "Work." "Have you any fads?" inquired my host. "The last parson we had here refused to sleep in a bed. When every one had retired to rest the whole house was roused by a hammering on the wall of our visitor's bedroom. Come and see!"

I entered the bedroom. "See those excavations?" He pointed out two large holes in the wall, where the paper had been torn away and the plaster disturbed. "Well, the parson we had here last hammered two huge hooked nails into those walls to support a hammock."

I had the qualified pleasure of meeting this eccentric at dinner some years after. "Can I serve you some soup?" inquired our hostess. "Never take soup," was the reply. Then, later: "You will take some fish?" The cleric simply shook his head. So he declined dish after dish.

"But what will you have?" inquired the now desperate hostess.

"I should like five raisins, one apple, a few nuts and some oil."

By this time every one was uncomfortable. A whisper went around that there were no raisins in the house. I suggested that he should go on with the oil and the apple. His face assumed a look of eloquent resignation. The next moment he sprang to his feet and rushed from the room.

The intelligent under-footman had brought in bicycle oil!

A delightful old clergyman, professor of Greek at my own university, had a habit of forgetting to put on his clothes. Once he walked into college chapel in an old-fashioned night-shirt. It was a misty morning early in February. An undergraduate was reading the first lesson, when this silent, ghost-like figure moved along in the dim dawn which crept in through the stained-glass windows. One of the dons took his arm and led him out.

On another occasion it was his turn to preach in the cathedral. Instead of stepping into the pulpit, he walked out altogether, and things came to a standstill.

Another old college don was a dreamer. One day he met me in the town. "My boy," he said, "I came out to go somewhere, but it's gone—gone! Can you tell me where I meant to go? I suggested that he should go back to his college. What is more, I saw him safely there.

Later in the evening he sent for me. There was the light of a great discovery in his eyes. "My boy," he said, "it has all come back to me in a flash. I never meant to go anywhere at all. I wanted to write a letter, and I must have missed my way to my library. You will have a glass of wine?" But he forgot to ring the bell. Presently he said: "Do have some more. Now, what have I done with the decanter?"

Many men's eccentricities are the result of self-hypnotism. I remember once seeing a well-known clergyman walking calmly along during a down-pour of rain, holding his walking stick up, under the impression it was an umbrella.

Absentmindedness is responsible for much amusement. An elderly clergyman, on arrival in Rome, was positive that he had lost some of his luggage, and gave notice at the office; but he was unable to say what the package was like, or even what it was.

It transpired, in the course of next day, that it was his wife he had lost. I shall not forget the interview between husband and wife.—Exchange.

Wireless Sketches in Warfare.

Surprising results are being obtained by means of the new invention of an Italian youth, Francesco di Bernocchi, called the wireless iconograph, which has recently been tested between Milan and Turin. His apparatus is far in advance of anything of the kind yet recorded. Besides ordinary messages, it also transmits autographs, shorthand characters and all sorts of designs. So simple is the arrangement that the transmitter and receiver of this instrument may be applied with ease to any ordinary wireless telegraph plant. General Spingardi, the Italian minister of war, is so much impressed by the enormous advantages of the wireless iconograph for transmitting orders and conveying sketches in time of war with the utmost secrecy that steps were immediately taken to secure for the Italian government exclusive possession of the patent.

Tickets No Good.

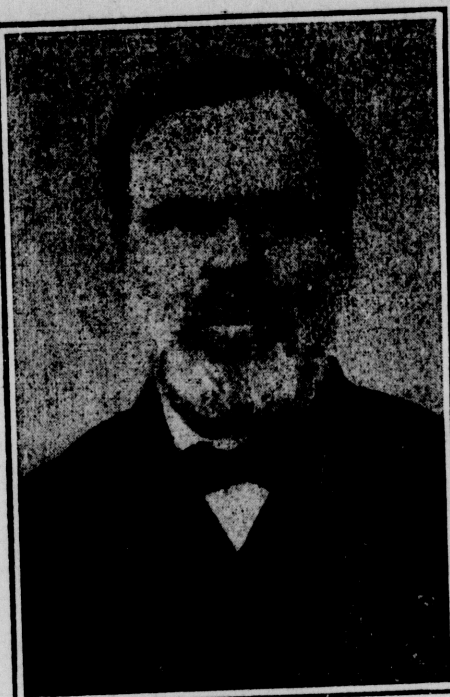
Mrs. Brown-Jones (which isn't her name at all, nor nothing like it) has a new parlor maid. Last Thursday was Mrs. B-J's day at home. Six callers were at the door, and each proffered her card.

Hilda looked the cards over carefully one by one.

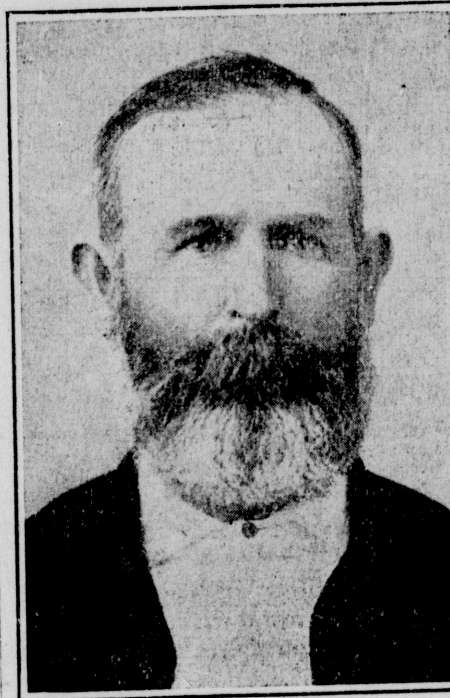
"Youse ladies is all wrong!" she decided finally. "One of your tickets is for Mrs. Choseph Thompson, one is for Mrs. Miller, one is for Miss Chunks and Miss Mabel Chunks—and den dere's tree odders, all wrong names, yet. Try next door; goodby."

Then she went back to her mistress. "None of 'em wanted to see you," she beamed. "Deir tickets was fer odder houses. I guess maybe dey ain't lifted here long."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Few of the Pioneer Friends Greeting the Messenger's 33d Anniversary



Uncle Sam Woody



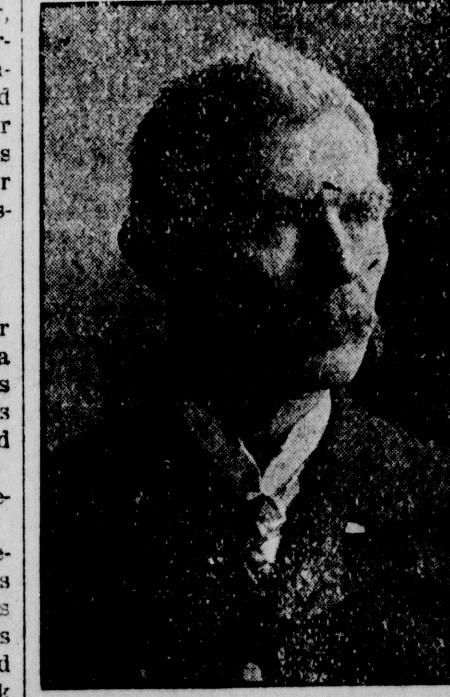
W. H. King



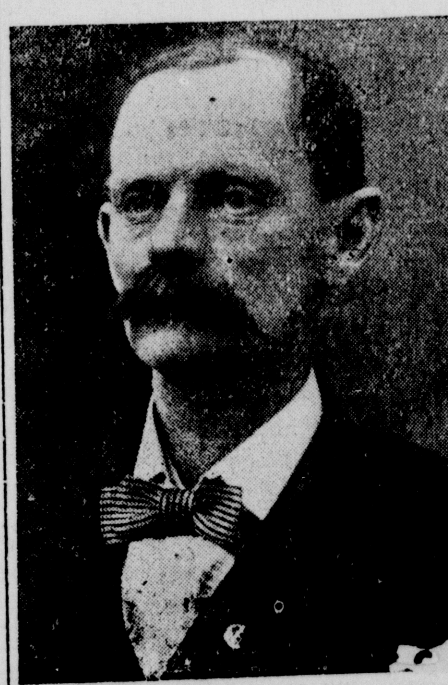
C. C. Thompson



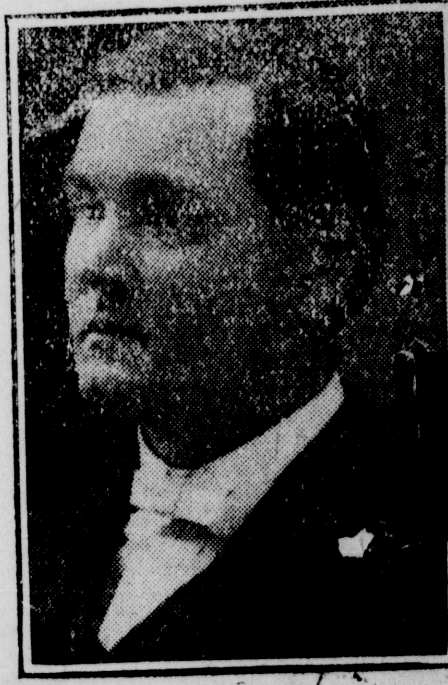
M. D. Sellers



J. A. Embry



E. O. Lively



J. P. Turner



The Pioneer Paper of Wisconsin

First in News, First in Circulation in the homes of Wisconsin.

First in Everything

The Messenger.

NEW DENVER SCHEDULE

Arrive at Decatur

SOUTH BOUND	NORTH BOUND
No. 8-5:40 a.m.	No. 3-9:43 a.m.
No. 2-4:28 p.m.	No. 1-11:20 a.m.
No. 4-3:17 p.m.	No. 7-11:35 p.m.

News of Town and County

LIGHT CRUST.

Dr. John Embry went to Alvord Tuesday.

Milton Halsell has returned to California.

J. V. Patterson has been in Memphis on business.

Prof. D.H. Bishop of Willow Point was here Tuesday.

Ora Crutchfield of Tishomingo, Ok. was here this week.

Hon. R. E. Carswell and family are visiting in Carthage.

C. A. Cartwright is on a visit to his brother in Marfa, Texas.

Miss Willie Williamson gave a party Tuesday night.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Smith, on Friday, Dec. 27, 1912, a son.

Mrs. Cal McCurdy of Fort Worth, has been visiting relatives here.

W. O. Bailey was in Eldorado, Ok. the past week visiting his mother.

Warren Lillard and Samuel Renshaw were in Fort Worth Sunday.

Flavius Spencer of Ft. Worth, has been in the city several days this week.

Miss Emmie Boone has gone to Ballinger to teach in the public high school.

T. H. Young and family of Bowie, are the guests of the family of Newt Young.

Miss Burch Mann gave a party Monday night in honor of the K. K. K. club.

T. B. Price and family left last week to make their home near Lockney.

We learn that Mr. Fount Ray, wife and daughter will shortly move to Dallas.

H. H. Trussell and family have moved to Decatur from the Sycamore community.

Miss Mary Risinger is at home after a pleasant visit with relatives at Sweetwater.

Burk Burnett of Fort Worth, was guest of the family of Rev. S. G. Christal last Sunday.

Public school opened Monday and the Baptist college Wednesday after the holiday vacations.

J. L. Sellars and wife and son, Leo, have returned home after spending a week in Wichita Falls.

Arch Cates, clerk in the public buildings and grounds department at Austin, was here last week.

Hon. A. B. Conley and wife, of Austin, have been the guests of their daughter, Mrs. Will Rush.

Mrs. Press Terrell has returned to her home in Temple, after a visit here with Mr. and Mrs. Will Terrell.

J. T. Chambers and daughter, Miss Guinn of Sanger, have been visiting the family of W. H. Chambers.

Mrs. Acker, who is a guest of her mother, Mrs. S. W. Tilghman, has returned from a visit to Dallas.

Mrs. W. P. Thurmond and daughter, Christine, have returned from their holiday visit at Gordon, Texas.

Miss Edna Wolfe left Sunday for sunset, where she has accepted a position in the high school at that place.

A burglar of a very bold type robbed the International hotel cash drawer of about \$85 Tuesday morning.

George Lynn, who has been in Philadelphia the past year learning the printing trade, has returned for a short visit.

Regular services at the Presbyterian church next Sunday, January 5. Preaching by Pastor Durham both morning and night. All are invited.

N. Hutcherson and wife of Chick, Okla., and J. C. Barnett of Denton, have been visiting the family of L. W. Hutcherson.

D. M. Cobb and granddaughter, Miss Frances Henry, of Okla., are the guests of Mrs. Russell, daughter of Mrs.

Bellah and family, R. A. and family, W. H. Rice and family of Dundee, and J. T. Garfield and family of Boyd. were the guests of Bellah and family last

night

J. T. Lynn was here from Dallas this week.

Miss Mary Rogers gave a party last Saturday night.

Sam Ford and Mark Dillehay were in Terral, Okla., last week.

John Donald of Muskogee, Okla., is the guest homefolks here.

Born to Dr. and Mrs. S. J. Petty on Friday, Dec. 20, 1912, a son.

Mrs. Ella Cates and Miss Irma of Fort Worth, were here Christmas.

Miss Robbie Donald has returned to Alvarado after a visit to relatives here.

Will Cates and son from Duncan, Okla., visited R. G. Cates during the holidays.

Opal Allen is here from Philadelphia on a visit to his mother, Mrs. J. T. Lynn.

Jack Sykes, of Memphis, Tenn., was the guest of Miss Fannie Donald during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Terrell Lillard send greetings to the Messenger force from Los Angeles, Cali.

Rev. Stynes will preach at the Cumberland Presbyterian church next Sunday morning and evening.

Manager Blythe announces he will continue the Saturday moving picture show for the benefit of the country people for small admission price of 5c to everybody.

Mrs. S. C. Riddle returned this week from Sherman, where she underwent a dangerous operation. Her many friends will be glad to know she has completely regained her health.

Clean up and keep clean during this new year. Dickson & Smith will clean your garments and make them fresh and new at any and all times. We call for and deliver packages. Phone S. W. 137

Floyd M. Kenny, one of the best liked of Decatur boys, was here on a visit last week from Denison. He is now with a gas company, having quit the drug business some time ago. And he is making good.

Rev. J. D. Heath has moved to Decatur from San Marcos to take charge of the raising of funds under the direction of the Baptist State Educational board for the finishing of the Baptist college building.

Judge E. M. Allison and wife arrived home Monday night from their holiday visit to Brevard, N. C., the boyhood home of the judge. They report a most excellent time and some of the biggest Christmas dinners in the land. This was the judge's first visit to the old home in more than twenty-one years.

It is reported that Guinn Williams is going into the horse and mule business on a large scale in some town in southwest Texas. Mr. Williams thoroughly understands the business and no doubt splendid success will attend his efforts. Messenger regrets to lose him from midst, but we wish the best of success.

Start the new year off right by trading with us and be an ever pleased customer. DICKSON & SMITH.

The heating plant being installed at the Baptist college is just about ready for operation. The plant is located in a brick structure south of the main building. From this the three buildings will be kept comfortably heated. This is one of the most-needed improvements ever made at the college. This heating plant, and the use of electric lights, eliminates the danger of fire in the buildings.

Hot chocolate with whipped cream and cake at City Bakery.

There will be preaching at the Christian church Sunday morning and evening. Subject in the morning, "The Voyage to Heaven;" at evening, "Rightly Dividing the Word." A full attendance of the membership is especially desired. U come. S. F. HOUTCHENS, Pastor.

The "Only Girls" gave a party at the home of Cathryne Lillard Dec. 21. The usual program was rendered and games were played, after which refreshments were served to the following: Misses Marie Bunnell, Maerosa Ray, Nellie Blankenship, Winnie Holt, Gabby Sue Carpenter, Estha Bramlitt, DeAlva Greer, Messrs. Leo Sellars, Aubrey Ingram, Guinn Williams, Jeff Christal, Horace Renshaw, Hiram Helm, Marion Gibbon, Ray Christian.

Marriage Licenses

Gene Young to Mabel Acke, Jim Hudson to Kittie Boydston, B. A. Blackburn to Addie Grisham, Lewis Carpenter to Lizzie Ransom, D. J. Wilson to Lula Bell Wright, L. W. Dyer to Lula Markham, J. H. Walker to Hattie Giles, S. A. Marshall to Rebecca Jarrott, R. V. Beauchamp to Della Boyd, A. J. Baker to Fodella Davis, O. W. Stephens to Lydia Miller, Eddie Robertson to Katie Smith, E. J. Redon to Vivian Clinton, E. T. Hicks to Eddie Baker, Fred Laird to Myrtle Gage, W. C. George to Ida Wells, C. E. Brown to Ada Flowery, J. M. Rice to Dorothy Skaggs, J. J. Taylor to Eula Utley.

Holiday Visitors

The following holiday visitors were here with relatives and friends:

Robt. Caver and wife, Ft. Worth. Miss Kathrine Frazer, Bridgeport. Miss Ripple Frazer, Denton C.I.A. Prof. Rex Sullivan, Bridgeport. Miss Maud Gilliland, Denton. Miss Mora Neilson, Sherman. Will Parish and wife, Dallas. Turner Christal, Guthrie. Wallace Nash, Dallas. Hon. H. D. Spencer, Memphis. Miss Ellene Mauldin, Sunset. Shelton Rogers, Morgan. Harley Burton, Waco. Miss Maud Riley, Benjamin. Claib Long, Wichita Falls. Hon. J. J. Terrell, Austin. Marco Hill and wife, Hillsboro. L. W. Renshaw and wife, Rhome. Press Terrell, Jr., Temple. Mr. and Mrs. Swinney, Joshua. Mrs. Dave Hamilton, Chico. Eb Reynolds, Bowie. Misses Clara St. Clair and Clara Below, Waco. Hon. Jno. Dyer, Hastings, Okla. W. F. Bryan, Middleburg, Okla. James and Walter St. Clair, Newt Barker, Murdock Young, Ft. Worth. S. R. Spencer and wife and Royl Penn, Waco. J. J. Melton, Marshall. C.N. Workman, Walker Patterson, Brandon Trussell, Archibald Cates, Austin.

Alma Gililand, Navasota. Miss Alma Alland, Denton. Miss Maggie Spencer, Quanah. S. G. Tankersley, Ft. Worth. Miss Drexell Terrell, Plainview. Mack Cates and wife, Ft. Worth. Miss Florence Nash, Kaufman. Miss Florentine Gibbon, New Orleans.

Embry Williams, Ft. Worth. Misses Ednae Halcomb and Willie Williamson, Liberty, Mo. Ross A. Smith, S. A. Moore and wife, Dallas.

Mrs. J. D. Brown, Memphis. Geo. Call, Jefferson.

Mrs. Emmett Allen, Roy Gililand and family, Mrs. J. E. White, Miss Caro Shelton, Dr. Archie McElroy and family, Fort Worth.

John Hunter and wife, Dallas. Emmett Roberts and wife, Henrietta, Okla.

Rev. Albert Gettys, Venus. Prof. Embry Gettys, Halsell. Miss Lela Mann, Westminster.

Misses Allie B. and Irma Lou Chambers, Denton.

Charley and John Plaxco, Fort Worth. Burch Gregg, Polytechnic. Audy Frederick, Alvarado. Walter Splawn, Fort Worth. Hal Provence, Abilene.

Railroad Auditor Stabbed.

A young man by the name of Ben Holley, former citizen of this county, but now employed at Wichita Falls, was brought here Monday afternoon and taken before Assistant County Attorney Spencer for some questioning concerning a cutting affray Holley was involved in that morning on a Rock Island passenger train north of Bridgeport. The young man made a statement in the presence of the officers and a Messenger reporter in substance as follows: He boarded the train at Bridgeport, going to Bowie. Failing to purchase a ticket, but offering cash fare, Holley aroused the ire of the auditor by refusing to pay 4 cents a mile. Some hot words passed and the auditor cracked Holley on the head with a ticket punch. As the trainman grabbed him at his back Holley struck over his left shoulder with a knife, inflicting a slight wound in the auditor's right breast. Holley made a small bond and went to Wichita Falls Monday night.

Ft. Worth Bankers Here.

Colonel Tom Waggoner and Captain Tom Yarbrough, wealthy bankers, oil land holders and cattlemen, of Fort Worth, were in the city for a few hours one day last week, paying a hurried visit to their banking institution here. Both gentlemen looked to be in good health and enjoying the prosperity their numerous valuable investments have brought them. These gentlemen several years ago were citizens of Decatur, but for some time they have resided in Ft. Worth, and it is seldom they are seen here, where the foundation was laid for the great Waggoner fortune. At one time Colonel Waggoner and Captain Yarbrough held large and varied interests here, but when they moved to Fort Worth their holdings with the exception of their banking interests were disposed of. Come up more frequently, gentlemen, and mix and mingle with our people, and get acquainted with the conditions of a dandy good town and community.

Cupid's Capers

S. A. Marshall and Miss Rebecca Jarrott were united in marriage on last Sunday morning, Dec. 29, 1912, at the home of the bride's parents in the Allison community, Rev. J. L. Sullivan officiating. Messenger joins the many friends of these popular young people in congratulations.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Five Cents per line per week

For Sale

A nice lot of registered Poland China and Duroc jersey pigs. Also a few bred gilts. S. A. LILLARD

FOR SALE—Duroc Jerseys; six months old; \$20.00 a piece. W. M. BADGER, Rt. 5.

FOR SALE—Thoroughbred silver-lace Wyandotte roosters; \$1.00 each if sold soon. MRS. G. H. FLETCHER, Sidel, Texas.

LOST—Old style gold breast pin, half inch wide by two inches long; floral design on one end and checker design on other end. Lost at or near court house. Finder receive liberal reward by returning to this office.

ALFALFA SEED.—I have home grown alfalfa seed, Al quality for sale. See or write me at Greenwood, Texas. T. F. MILLIGAN. (1-12)

STOCK FARM—Of 200 acres for sale six miles north of Decatur. See J. N. CRABTREE at Peninger's.

FOR SALE—House and lot in East Decatur; good six-room house, well; good barn; lot 100 feet square, fenced chicken proof wire. At a bargain. C. B. MECASKEY. (6-1f)

80 ACRES of good sandy land; 60 in cultivation, balance woodland; three-room house with good well and barn; \$16.00 per acre, \$320 cash, balance to suit. C. C. BELL. (8-9)

FOUND—A toboggan on the public square last Tuesday night December 3rd. Owner can have same by calling at this office and paying for this notice.

WOOD, green or dry at 25c per load; heater or cook wood at \$1.25 per load. See me, or Mr. Wolford at my farm. C. C. BELL. (8-9)

FOR SALE—Farm five miles south of Decatur, 150 acres in cultivation, two sets of improvements, two good wells windmill, barn, etc. One of the best bargains to be found in Wise county. See LUTHER BELEW, Decatur.

SEED Ribbon Cane Sorghum—fifty cents per gallon in quantities of five gallons or more at my place west of town. C. B. MECASKEY

FOR SALE—Piano, buffet, sewing machine, all at a bargain. Will give terms or take stock on piano. See me at once. TENNIS BEVILLE. (12-20)

Spend an evening at the Majestic. Warm room and comfortable seats. Three last week nights. Only 10c.

LOST—\$20 bill gold certificate, somewhere between Helm, Ward & Dillehay's store and Cash Grocery store, on December 26. Reward for return. BOB SENSIBAUGH.

LOST—\$5 bill on public square or in South Decatur, on Christmas week. Return to Messenger office and get reward.

SEED OATS—for sale, on fall time; good notes taken. At my farm ten miles east of Decatur. A. S. THOMAS. (12 wk.)

FOR SALE—To make room for my black Samatra chickens I can spare a few nice Rhode Island reds if taken at once. S. P. NASH, Dentist

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm.

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Who's the Town Booster? Why Here He Is!



The citizen who praises his own town.

The citizen who encourages local enterprises.

The citizen who helps along home improvements.

The citizen who patronizes the home merchants.

The citizen who gets his job printing done in his own town.

That man's THE TOWN BOOSTER.

We wish you one and all a very happy and prosperous New Year. We thank you for past business, and shall try to deserve a continuation of same.

CITY NATIONAL BANK

of Decatur, Texas

Capital and Surplus \$100,000

S. A. LILLARD, President

J. WARREN LILLARD, Cashier

J. F. LILLARD, Vice President

W. P. THURMOND, Ass't Cashier

Wolfe's Meat Market

Fresh Meats of All Kinds
The Best the Market Affords

I Want to Buy

Fat Cattle and Hogs, also
Hides, Wool, Country Produce,
all kinds of Poultry

Will Pay the Highest Market Price

W. E. WOLFE

East Main Street, Decatur, Texas

Pay For Your Home

By Getting a Loan at 8 per cent,
Long Time, Ready Money. Put in your
application now. I have the best
Companies.

J. W. BAILEY, Decatur, Tex.
See me for Any Kind of Insurance

The Love Letters of a Confederate General

WE begin in the November issue a series of real love-letters written over fifty years ago by one of our national heroes to his sweetheart during the period of '61 to '65. This great general will go down to posterity as having accomplished one of the most brilliant feats of arms in the history of the world. He was as great a lover as he was a general, therefore the letters combine authentic history and exquisite romance. They sound a human note that no other work of literature has done in a decade; it is war, it is romance, it is history, it is literature. You simply can't afford to miss this wonderful series—an inside story of the Civil War now published for the first time and containing all the freshness of a contemporary happening. These letters will grip you hard, and hold your interest from first to last. Fill out the coupon and I send it now before you forget it.



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IN WINTER QUARTERS

Be Transferred Into Cellar as Little Jarring as Possible and Left Alone.

Bees into the cellar with as much as possible, along toward the bottom, and then leave them absolutely alone for several days, as the bees will not need to be ventilated at this time.

Successful beekeepers remove the old hive and over the hive place a shallow box whose bottom is covered with duck or heavy muslin, and the box is filled with, say, an inch or more of chaff or sawdust, claiming that this method not only absorbs the moisture but also gives the bees a cozy, added warmth at the top just where it is needed.

Where the bees are to be wintered on their permanent stands outdoors the best plan is to have them in chaff hives with double walls, or else have each hive protected with many thick layers of old newspapers, over which a wind and water proof wooden telephone cover should be placed, the cover, of course, being very deep.

Colonies wintered outdoors should have at least 25 pounds of honey in them for winter stores, and if it is too cold to feed the needy ones, just remove from their brood nests several empty or light combs, and replace them with fully capped-over ones that may be on hand.

Where few hives are kept, corn cobs can be piled all around the hives, leaving the entrances of the hives unobstructed.

When we speak of wintering bees outdoors in chaff hives, we would not have our readers understand that these chaff hives are extra winter arrangements separate from the hives proper, but are complete hives in themselves, to be used both summer and winter, and the only difference between winter and summer use is that we prepare them for winter in place at the top the way that is stored away for the summer season.

WIFE'S REASONS FOR LOVING

Properly Considered, They Would Seem to Explain the Idea Pretty Thoroughly.

They are no longer young. He was just past and she was almost fifty.

They had made a little wild excursion together. One day, when Old Nick was in the air they were walking along the street in Paris, wondering where they should go to dinner.

O, no, no! Nothing of that kind. Bless you, they had been married so long that they had a grandchild. They were Americans. He happened to be working in Paris. She was his wife.

Still, for all that, the Old Nick was in the air, and even these two felt they simply had to do something out of the way.

So they took the first tram car that came along and rode out to the end of the line. They were landed at one of the gates of the city, right by the fortifications. There they found a little restaurant and dined on the sidewalk.

They began to talk about love. When two who have been married a quarter of a century talk of love you'd better listen; you might learn something.

There is just one point brought out in their conversation that I wish to note. It struck me as a decidedly ingenious one.

"How do you know you love me?" he asked.

"Well," she responded, after reflecting a bit (perhaps if she had been twenty she would have answered by a look only, but now she took the question up seriously, as if anxious to answer herself as well as him), "one reason is that if I'm ever in any trouble, if I should be sick or have any calamity happen me, or anything terrible, I should want you, first of all."

"And another reason is that whenever I have any pleasure, when anything in the way of good luck comes, or when I see anything beautiful, my first instinct is to find you, to enjoy it with me."

"Those," he replied, "are really good reasons."

They were silent a bit. The past is always a third guest when fifty-year-old lovers talk. He was in the thought of both. Then he added:

"And most of all it is the feeling, the certainty, that no matter what I do or say, no matter what happens or can possibly happen, you would be right by me; you would just be for me; you'd just be there, asking no questions, but just be for me, whoever, whatever was against me—till death."—Chicago News.

Wondering About the Football Boys.

"Every year, along about this time," grumbled the Old Codger, "we behold in the newspapers many pictures of huge, hulking, disheveled young lunkheads, with knobs at the knees of their short pants, standing straddling, with their arms akimbo, and gloomily ominously from beneath their mops of hair. They bear the designations of 'Captain Bulnek of the Hyenas,' 'Lubberty, the famous left-end,' 'McLout, drawback,' or something of the sort. And as we gaze at their likenesses we are moved to wonder:

(a) What do they do the rest of the time?

(b) Why do they do this at all?

(c) Would a little plain work prove fatal to them?

(d) Couldn't they quit football and try to be happy and useful and ornamental, all at the same time?

"Noty Beany: My nephew is one of 'em, dod-rot him!"

What's the Use?

I am ceasing to criticize—I use the word in its present, degenerate sense of fault-finding—because my complaints have not been productive of one iota of good.

Moreover, they have always been ungraciously received either by the person whose good I sought or by the person upon whose sympathy I was depending. Those whose good I sought have not listened to me.

"Minnie," said I to my maid, whose stupid looks had become a trial to be endured no longer in silence, "do you know that you go about with your mouth open?"

"Yes'm," answered Minnie stolidly. "I opened it."

I have been rudely treated when my motive was purely unselfish.

"Madam," said I to a stranger in a city shop, "your belt is unfastened."

"That," answered the lady, "is the way I wish it to be."—Atlantic.

Haiti's Navy Out of "Hock."

Haiti has acquired a bankroll and has taken its navy out of "hock." The navy—the cruiser Ferrier, Admiral William Watt—has been quartered at the League Island Navy Yard since last summer.

The admiral of the navy has stayed with it because he couldn't collect any money and the navy has remained because it couldn't get away. Its boilers wouldn't let it.

Orders were received that the navy should be towed to the yards of the Philadelphia Ship Repair Company to be refitted at a cost of \$75,000. The orders came from the Haitian minister at Washington.

To Exchange Speakers.

Mrs. Alex. Tweedie of London and Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker, president of the General Federation of Women's clubs, were at a luncheon in Chicago last week and agreed that it would be good for both countries if an exchange of speakers could be made. The taking of the first step was left to the Chicago Woman's club at the suggestion of Mrs. Pennybacker.

This Store Will Deliver Goods By Parcels Post After Jan. 1st

An advertisement telling you about Uncle Sam's latest innovation and how you can use it to your advantage

Beginning Jan. 1st our friends who are at a distance can get goods by the New Parcels Post System.

We will deliver anywhere in the county any package weighing not more than eleven pounds by mail.

You can arrange with this store so that by simply dropping us a line enclosing check or money order your mail carrier will deliver your wants at your door the next time.

We are getting very luxurious these days in the country as well as in the city.

This Tells You What to Do

When you need anything and it isn't convenient to come to this store, all you have to do is to mail us your order, enclosing money order or check, and goods will be sent on approval.

We don't mean by this that buying by mail will ever wholly take the place of coming to our store to make selections. We would rather have you come here. The Parcels Post, however, comes to your rescue when you know what you want and know that we have got it.

All goods that we sell are at the lowest possible prices. There is no concern in the country, department store or mail order house that sells you goods lower than we do.

We Prepay the Postage on Everything \$1 or More in Value

No Goods Will Be Sent Unless Money Accompanies the Order.

If goods are not satisfactory we will refund money and pay return post charges.

THE RED STORE

While the mechanical corn husker is a decided labor saver, it is not yet, after several years' experimenting and development, entirely satisfactory. The husker has been perfected so that it will remove the husks and take care of the corn shelled by the snapping rolls, but it still falls down when it comes to getting all the ears in a row. One of these machines of the latest type was returned by a farmer to the dealer because of this defect, as it skipped more than a bushel of corn to the row. Where the snowfall is not heavy and stock can be turned in, this skipping of ears is not so important, but where these conditions do not hold the defect becomes a serious one.

CONCERNING ALFALFA.

The Better Farming association of North Dakota has the past season distributed alfalfa seed to several hundred farmers of the state, and the outcome of the numerous trials is being watched with interest. Some report success, others have done fairly well, while still others have failed. It is fair to assume in case of these failures, except where due to fundamental difficulties as to soil and moisture, that the following of a somewhat different method may bring success. Where soil conditions are right the writer believes that a farmer ought

not to despair of growing alfalfa until he has failed at least four times.

AN INTERESTING TREE.

Some very interesting records of bygone events are often written in other places than books. This was interestingly shown in the case of a tree that was sawed through in a Washington mill the other day. Buried several inches in the solid wood was found the stub of a charred branch that had been entirely overgrown by succeeding layers of the growth. It was clear that many years ago this tree had been subject to a forest fire sufficient to burn this limb, but not so severe as to kill the tree. Microscopical examination of the growth rings showed that this fire occurred just 114 years ago.

WINTER RHUBARB.

One may have rhubarb for winter use by digging the roots just before the hard freezing weather sets in and allowing them to remain in some sheltered place until thoroughly frozen. About the middle of December the roots should be taken into the cellar and covered lightly with earth and kept watered. They will produce a good many shoots, which will be crisp and tender and will give a nice relish for the table during the months when fresh stuff is scarce and high priced.

The Wise County Messenger is recognized throughout the state as the leading publication in Decatur and this section. It is the most widely circulated paper in Wise county, and no other publication in Decatur can claim one-third the number of readers in this community as the Messenger.

ADDITIONAL LOCALS

The Messenger learns that its friend, Dan Tilghman, in the United States navy, and at present stationed at the Norfolk, Va., navy yards, recently fell while leaving the ship and injured one of his legs. Dan is a good sailor and since re-joining the service has been promoted to a good position as an engineer.

The ladies of the "42" club entertained Friday night in the K. of P. hall. Refreshments were served and a most enjoyable time was had.

The entertainment to have been given by the Harmony club last Tuesday night was postponed indefinitely, owing to the program not being up to the high requirements of the club, or, in other words, the ladies had not practiced a sufficient time to have given an entertainment up to the high standard the club has set with the Decatur people.

Try those delicious hot drinks at City Bakery. You'll like them.

Misses Kathrine and Ripple Frazer entertained a few of their friends Friday evening with a party.

D. H. S. Defeats Bridgeport

The Decatur High school basketball team won from the Bridgeport High by a score of 39 to 30 in a warmly contested game on locals' grounds, Friday afternoon, December 20. The game was clean from start to finish. The victory was due to team work on the part of the locals. Handley was easily the star player for the visitors, while Stanley's numerous short field goals in the first half and the two remarkably long goals made by England in the last half brought rounds of cheers from the home supporters. Decatur will have a winning team this year, as usual, if the proper patronage and encouragement is given when games are played at home. Let's support the team.

The next game at home will be played with Dallas High Jan. 11.

Notice

We are installing at our plant machinery to gin bolls or rough cotton.

Will be prepared to gin bolls by the first of next week. Are in the market now for bolls in any amount at highest market price.

FT. WORTH COTTON OIL CO.,
Decatur, Tex.

Heartburn is a symptom of indigestion. Take a dose of Herbine in such cases. The pain disappears immediately. The bowels operate speedily and you feel fine, vigorous and cheerful. Price 50c. Sold by Man & Simmons.

Parcels Post Rules

That distinctive parcel post stamps must be used on all fourth-class matter beginning January 1st, 1913, and that such matter bearing ordinary postage stamps will be treated as "held for postage."

That parcels will be available only at postoffice, branch postoffice lettered and local named stations, and such numbered stations as may be designated by the postmaster.

That all parcels must bear the return card of the sender; otherwise they will not be accepted for mailing.

Sickly children need White's Cream Vermifuge. It not only destroys worms, if there be any, but it acts as a strengthening tonic to the stomach and bowels. Price 25c per bottle. Sold by Man & Simmons.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF

The First State Bank

SLIDELL, TEXAS.

At the close of business, Nov. 26, 1912

RESOURCES	
Loans and Discounts	\$27,781 17
Overdrafts	2,600 67
Real estate (banking house)	686 50
Furniture and fixtures	1,671 80
Due from Approved Reserve Agents, net	\$11,900 64
Due from other Banks and Bankers, subject to check, net	\$11,900 64
Cash items	336 97
Currency	\$4,703 00
Specie	\$339 65
Int. in Depositor's guarantee fund	318 13
Other resources	39 17
TOTAL	\$50,377 67

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock paid in	\$10,000.00
Surplus Fund	2500.00
Undivided Profits, net	1,355 62
Individual Deposits, subject to check	36,405 51
Demand Certificates of Deposit	28 00
Cashier's checks	88 54
TOTAL	\$50,377 67

State of Texas, County of Wise,
We, T. S. ATCHESON as president, and L. M. ATCHESON as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

T. S. ATCHESON, President.
L. M. ATCHESON, Cashier.
Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 5th day of Dec., A. D. nineteen hundred and twelve.
J. P. Turner, Notary Public.
Correct Attest: J. W. BRYANT,
A. R. DRAKE,
J. P. TURNER,
Directors.

PROVERBS MOSTLY OLD

MAJORITY HAVE BEEN HANDED DOWN FOR CENTURIES.

Same Meaning Is Expressed in Varying Phrases Among Different Nations—Comments on Luck Are Most Expressive.

Many proverbs have come down to us from remote ages, and are common to all nations.

It is said that a king of Samos worked his slaves nearly to death in making a vineyard. This provoked one of them to prophesy that his master would never drink the wine. The king, being told of this, when the first grapes were produced took a handful, and, pressing the juice into a cup in the presence of the slave, derided him as a false prophet. "Many things happen between the cup and the lip," the slave replied.

Just then a shout was heard that a wild boar had broken into the vineyard. The king, without tasting, set down the cup, ran to meet it, and was killed in the encounter. Henceforth the words of the slave passed into a proverb.

From this Greek original came two French proverbs: "Between the hand and the mouth the soup is often spilt," and "Wine poured out is not swallowed." Neither is so near the original as our English, "There's many a slip 'twixt cup and lip."

It is curious to trace how similar ideas have taken root in different languages and the various modes of illustrating the same thought. For instance, one or two familiar proverbs in our own language. We say, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." The same idea is expressed by Italians when they say, "Better an egg today than a pullet tomorrow," and the French proverb is still more significant, "One here-it is better than two youshall-have-it." "Better a leveret in the kitchen than a wild boar in the forest," is the Livonian saying conveying the same meaning.

The proverbs on luck are numerous and expressive in all languages. In English we say, "It is better to be born lucky than rich." The Arabs convey the same idea in the apt proverb, "Throw him into the Nile and he will come up with a fish in his mouth," while the German says, "If he flung a penny on the roof a dollar would come back to him."

A Spanish proverb says, "God send you luck, my son, and little wit will serve you." There is a Latin adage, "Fortune favors fools," and it is to this Touchstone alludes in his reply to Jacques, "Call me not a fool till heaven hath sent me fortune."

The Germans say, "Jack gets on by his stupidity" and "Fortune and women are fond of fools." There is also a Latin proverb which shows that the converse of this holds good: "Fortune makes a fool of him whom she too much favors."

Some unlucky Englishman is responsible for the saying: "If my father had made me a hatter, when would have been born without heads," but this can scarcely be called original, as an unfortunate Arab, ages ago, declared, "If I were to trade in winding sheets no one would die."

"Misfortunes seldom come singly," has many equivalents in all languages. The Spaniards say, "Welcome, misfortune, if thou comest alone," and "Whither goest thou, misfortune? To where there is more?"

Called Halt on Lawyer.

Laura Hamilton tells of a funny courtroom episode which she saw one day while playing in the south some time ago.

A young lawyer had been appointed by the court to defend a man charged with larceny. In his argument to the jury he pleaded for the acquittal of his client. He told of his innocent boyhood days, of his good character, of his father, mother and brothers. In short, he launched forth into a family history.

The prisoner, an old darky, had listened with growing uneasiness to his counsel's plea, and as the attorney went on without a hint of stopping, the negro was driven to desperation. Jumping to his feet, he yelled to the court:

"I's guilty, yo' honah; I's guilty! Do jury can't do no moh dan send me to jail fo' six months, but if dat fool lawyer doan stop, dey'll hang me fo' suah!"

Identified.

The two American war correspondents were gazing at the conflict when Klunktop caught sight of a gallant officer leading a charge.

"His face is strangely familiar," he said. "That Greek lieutenant, I mean."

"Yes," said Blithers. "He used to run the boot-blackening stand in that barber shop over on Steenth avenue and Umpiph street."

And just then the noble warrior dashed madly past, and, forgetting himself under the excitement of the moment, turned and cried aloud to his advancing troops:

"Next! Shine!"
And the indomitable phalanx moved steadily up the hill, giving the enemy the worst polishing-off they had had since war was declared.—Harper's Weekly.

Strenuous Oratory.

Caller—What's all that pounding in the back room?

H. P.'s Office Boy—Dunno! I heard the boss say he'd got to flame a speech, and I guess he's doin' it.—Story Stories.

ONE ON THE TOWN PROBER

Mrs. Hill's Well-Laid Plans Did Not Afford Her the Satisfaction She Expected.

The neighbors were in an uproar. Miss Joy, the beautiful and charming social light, had suddenly crawled into her shell. Not only had she absented herself from dinners, receptions, and bridges, but she had not even appeared on the streets. Inquiries at her home disproved the general opinion that she was ill. The mystery deepened. Miss Joy had simply become a recluse.

"I can't understand it," said one of the more curious. "She has never gone to the woods like this before. She doesn't even drive any more."

"Probably there is something awful behind it," replied another, with a glimmer of keen enjoyment in her eyes.

Still the belle failed to put in her appearance. Gossip became intense, until finally Mrs. Hill, the town-prober, decided with grim determination to find out the real cause of the retirement. She outlined her plans to her friends with zest.

"I will issue invitations to a tea tomorrow afternoon and will send one to Miss Joy. Later I will call her over the telephone, insisting that she attend. She will refuse, and then I shall demand to know the reason."

"A perfect idea!" assented the others in chorus.

"Of course, I won't have the tea," continued Mrs. Hill. "That will be understood among all of us."

"Oh, certainly," came the disappointed response. "We only want to find out the truth."

The invitations were issued, and Mrs. Hill immediately opened telephonic communication.

"Hello, is this Miss Joy?" she began.

"Yes."
"This is Mrs. Hill. I supposed you received my invitation to the tea? Now, I won't take any excuse. You must come."

"No need of excuse," sweetly chirped Miss Joy. "I shall be more than delighted to be present."

Reward of the Politician.

When Ollie James, now junior United States senator from Kentucky, first broke into politics in his native county of Crittenden he had occasion to try a case before a rural magistrate. When the trial was ended, says the Saturday Evening Post, the magistrate invited the young lawyer to go home to dinner with him. As they sat down at the table the old man said:

"Ollie, it pains me mightily to see you messin' in with politics."

"Why so?" inquired James.

"Ollie, my son," said the magistrate, "politics ain't a fittin' pursuit for any young man. Look at me! I started in politics when I was young and hopeful, jest like you are now. I have held all the positions of trust in the gift of the people of my home district—I have been school trustee, road supervisor and constable, and justice of the peace. But now, as an old man, all I've got to show for my years of ceaseless political activity is a lot of warm enemies and cold friends."

As Good as a Gold Mine.

Professor White estimates that no fewer than 400,000,000 gas mantles are used every year, and as these gas mantles cannot be manufactured without a substance named thorium, the necessity for obtaining a large supply is obvious. Some time ago the manufacturers were, indeed, at a loss to discover sufficient for their purpose. Their anxiety was removed quite unexpectedly when a stranger walked into the office of one of the great incandescent companies and offered to show where an unlimited supply could be obtained.

He demanded £100,000 for the information, and this sum the company readily undertook to pay. The directors were, however, doubtful of his ability to carry out his promise, but after obtaining a contract he took a representative of the company to Brazil, where huge deposits of thorium were discovered. From this place most of the thorium now in use is obtained. The stranger had discovered the find quite accidentally.

Smoke-Cured.

To be strictly accurate, it was not a smoking compartment, but the youth was puffing away at a chubby briar, despite the pained expression on the old lady's face. By and by the old lady, who was the only other occupant of the carriage, began to get excited.

"Young man," she barked, as far as her coughing would permit her, "do you know that it's wrong to smoke?"
"Well," replied the lad, as he enveloped the old lady in a wreath of pungent smoke, "I use tobacco for my health."

"Health!" ejaculated the victim, in spluttering tones. "Nonsense! You never heard of any one being cured by smoking."

"Yes, I have," declared the youth, still puffing away like a furnace chimney; "that's the way they cure pigs."

"Then smoke away," cried the heroine of the story; "there may be hope for you yet."

Wane of Motherhood.

Ellen Key, writing in one of the magazines, deprecates the wane of motherhood, a constantly increasing disinclination to assume its responsibilities, she says, being everywhere apparent. The disinclination is not confined to any one class, she says, but the work-worn drudge and the idle creature of luxury are both averse to it.

We Wish Our Friends and Customers

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

We appreciate the splendid business you have given us—and in the future, as in the past, we will put forth our best efforts to merit your patronage.

Lillard's Mississippi Store

Our Minds Are as Children.
I think that we should treat our minds as innocent and ingenuous children whose guardians we are, be careful what objects and subjects we thrust on their attention.—Thoreau.

Self-Discipline.

What we do on some great occasion will probably depend on what we already are, and what we are will be the result of previous years of self-discipline.—Canon Liddon.

Presence of Mind.

An Englishman in traveling through Ceylon was the guest of a dockyard official at Trincomalee.

"The dinner was excellent," he says, "but when it was about half over I was startled by hearing the wife of my host tell the native servant to place a bowl of milk on a deer-skin near her chair."

"Although she spoke as calmly as if giving an ordinary order, I knew at once there was a snake somewhere in the room, for they prefer milk to anything else. As a hasty movement might have meant certain death, we all sat like statues; but, for all that, my eyes were inspecting every nook and corner, with a peep under the table. However, it was not until the milk was placed on the deer-skin that the snake appeared. And then, to our amazement, a large cobra uncoiled itself from my hostess's ankle and glided towards the bowl, when, of course, it was immediately killed."

"But just fancy the nerve of the woman, though she fainted when the thing lay dead on the floor. How many could have remained motionless in such circumstances?"

Tamed by a Threat.

"I will," she exclaimed—"I will not live with you another day!"
"You'll leave me, will you?" he calmly asked.

"Yes, I will."
"When?"

"Now—this minute!"

"I wouldn't, if I were you."

"But I will, and I defy you to stop me!"

"Oh, I shan't try to stop you," he quietly replied. "I will simply report to the police that my wife has mysteriously disappeared. They'll want your description, and I will give it. You wear No. 8 shoes; you have an extra large mouth; your nose turns up at the end; eyes rather, on the glint; voice like a—"

"Wretch, you wouldn't dare do that?" she screamed.

"I will."

They glared at each other for a moment in silence. Then it was plain to see who was the victor.

Brave Fire Laddies.

A local automobile factory has a well-drilled fire corps, composed of factory employees. The corps had a chance to demonstrate its ability when a neighboring factory building burned.

The captain of the factory fire company called his men together after they had grabbed what they thought were fire extinguishers. As he started to give the order to turn the extinguishers on the roof, where some sparks from the neighboring fire had fallen, it was discovered every man was armed with a gas tank like those used in automobiles.

SHOULD TEST THEIR COWS.

A creamery manager with whom we talked the other day stated that, so far as he was aware, not one of the four hundred odd patrons of the creamery are using the Babcock test for determining accurately the quality and amount of milk given by their individual cows. In view of the fact that so much tedious and exacting work has to be done in connection with the milking of these cows, it seems strange that more of the owners do not take the pains to ascertain just which cows of their herd are paying for their keep. If these cows are like the run of cows in communities where cow testing associations have been formed it is probably safe to assume that 40 per cent of the 2,500 cows belonging to this group of patrons, or 1,000 animals, are not or are just barely paying expenses. The Babcock testing outfit is a simple affair, costing but \$4 or \$5, and any competent hired man or bright boy or girl could look after the weighing and testing of the milk and make the necessary records. While daily testing would be necessary for a complete milk and butter fat record, weekly weighing and testing would give a very good idea of what a cow was doing. It would determine at once whether she belonged to the money makers or to the other squad that were simply eating their heads off and being milked for "the fun of it." This group of creamery patrons will continue to grope in the dark, as it were, in the dairy business until it decides that it is worth its while to get at the real facts in regard to its cows in a systematic and exact way.

THE SERUM SHOULD BE PURE.

These days, when hog cholera is playing havoc with many a herd of valuable hogs, considerable attention is being paid by hog raisers to the vaccination method as a means of warding off the disease. Where the cholera vaccine is pure and properly applied it has been remarkably successful, as indicated in reports of the Illinois board of live stock commissioners, which state that out of 241,000 hogs given the treatment less than 1 per cent died. In some isolated cases where a vaccine of unknown strength and purity has been used the loss from cholera has been practically as severe as if no treatment had been given. Inasmuch as it costs close to a dollar a head to vaccinate hogs, it is well to see to it that the fellow who does it understands his job and that the vaccine used is the best obtainable.

ORCHARD PROTECTION.

In those latitudes where snow remains on the ground during a considerable portion of the winter care should be taken to see that all weeds, straw or other litter is removed from within a radius of two or three feet from the trunks of the orchard trees. Left there, it is more than likely to become a harbor for mice, which are pretty sure to gnaw the tender bark of the trees when other kinds of food are scarce, and covered with snow. The proper protection is the wood veneer or wire screen covering. But even if such protectors are got this ought not to cause any letup in the campaign to reduce the number of rabbits or take the place of occasional trips through the orchard to see that everything is O. K.

Hot chocolate with whipped cream and cake at San la Roy.



Telephone for All

The DOCTOR, for man or beast, is only one of those you may summon instantly by

Bell Telephone

A perfect means of guarding against emergencies and overcoming loneliness.

Now is a good time to learn how YOU can use this service.

THE Southwestern Telephone and Telegraph Co. DALLAS, - TEXAS

RUN-DOWN PEOPLE

Made Strong by Vinol.

Run-down conditions are caused by overwork, worry, too close confinement, a chronic cough or which it is difficult to cure.

We want to say to every person in this condition—you need Vinol, delicious cod liver and iron without oil, the great strength-giver. It will supply iron to the blood, the most easily assimilated, create a good, healthy appetite, strengthen your digestive organs, make you eat better, and feel better.

A case has just been reported from West Chas. Proper says, "I was all run down, no appetite, and I am glad to say my back my health is just what I needed."

We are convinced that Vinol is the best body-builder and strength-giver we have ever sold.

Try a bottle on our guarantee. We will refund your money if it does not benefit you.

For sale by Ford & Thompson.

Foils a Foul Plot

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